Animal Academy

はこぶね白書 HAKOBUNE HAKUSHO

1

MOYAMU FUJINO

TOKYOPOP

Animal ACADEMY

はこぶね白書

HAKOBUNE HAKUSHO

1

MOYAM

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Manga
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Can you pledge secrecy when you are... a human being?

When Neko Fukuta finds herself enrolled in the mysterious Morimori Academy—a secret school for animal-human shape shifters—she soon realizes she must pretend to be a magical cat and not allow any of the other students to find out her real identity... But as she struggles with the trials and tribulations of a new school and new friends, Neko's just-discovered feline side might bring out the true human spirit in all of her animal classmates!

THE MANGA REVOLUTION · LEADING
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Animal ACADEMY

はこぶね白書 HAKOBUNE HAKUSHO

Volume 1
by
MOYAMU FUJINO

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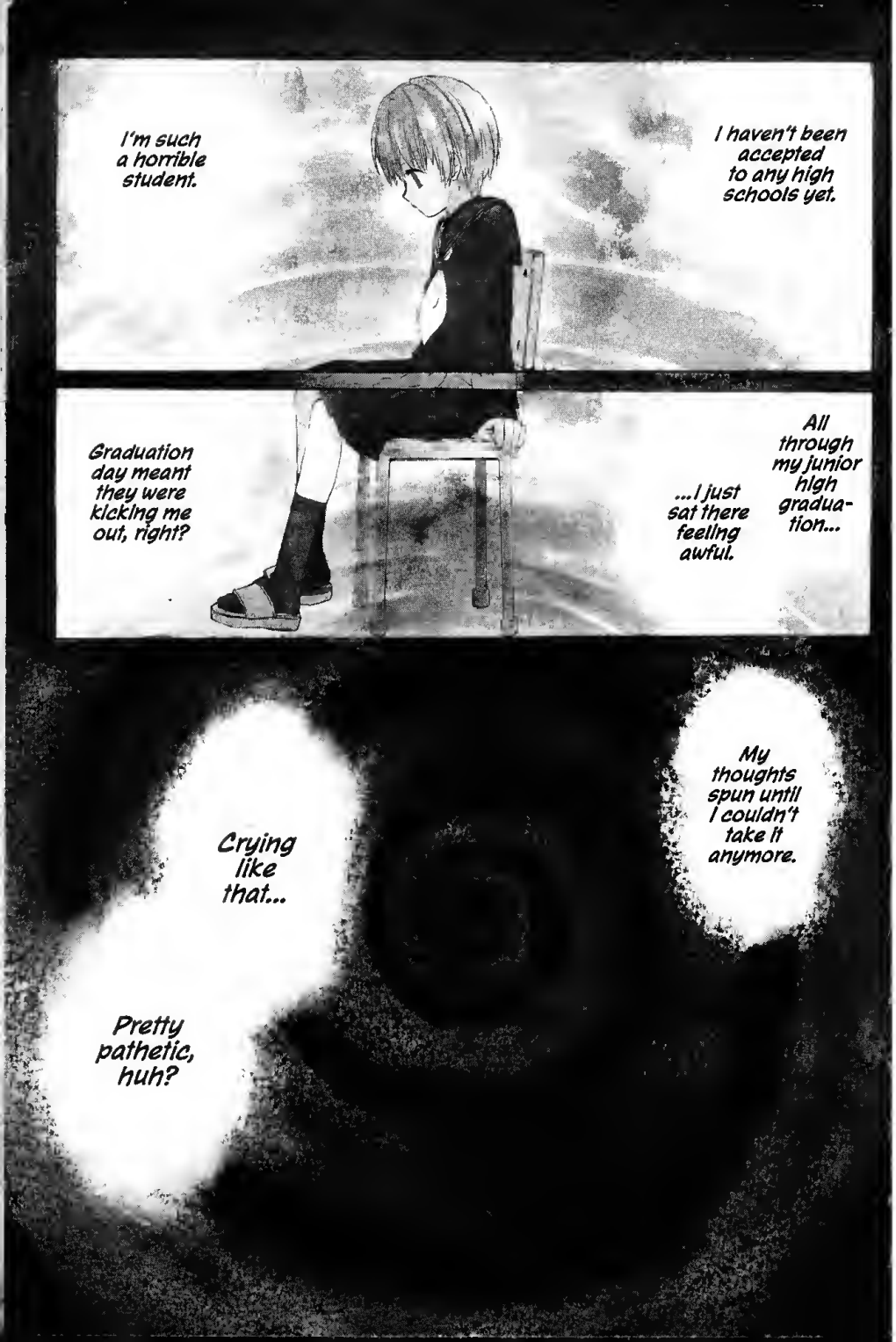
はこぶね HAKOBUNE

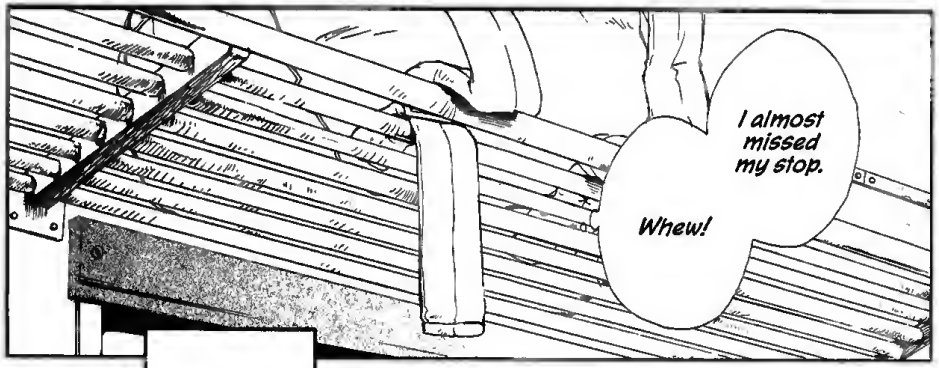
Cartoon by
MOYAMU FUJINO
藤野もやむ


I'm such a horrible student.
I haven't been accepted to any high schools yet.
Graduation day meant they were kicking me out, right?
...I just sat there feeling awful.
All through my junior high graduation...
My thoughts spun until I couldn't take it anymore.
Crying like that...
Pretty pathetic, huh?

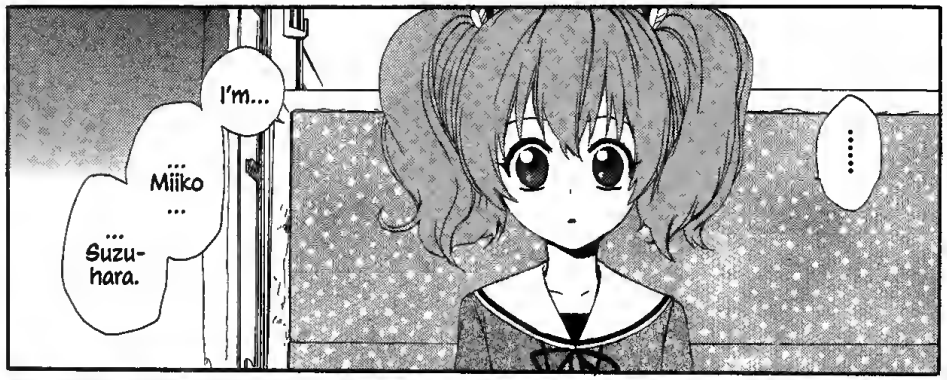
Report.1 School!

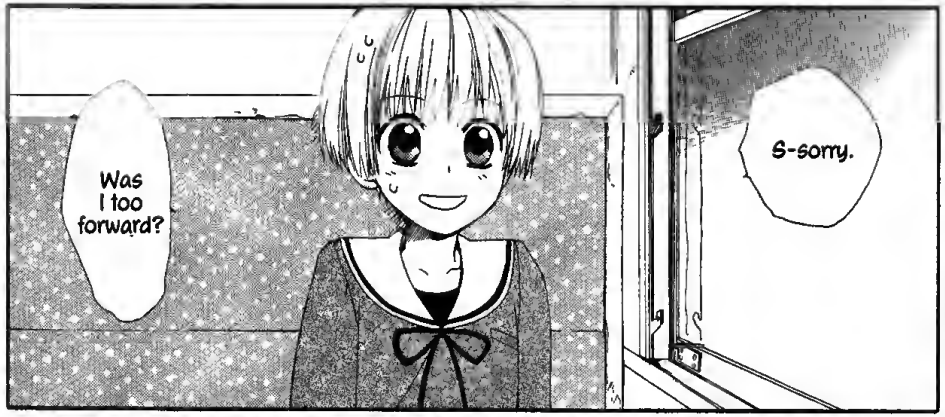
Hello.
H-hi there...
Aaah!
Gasp!

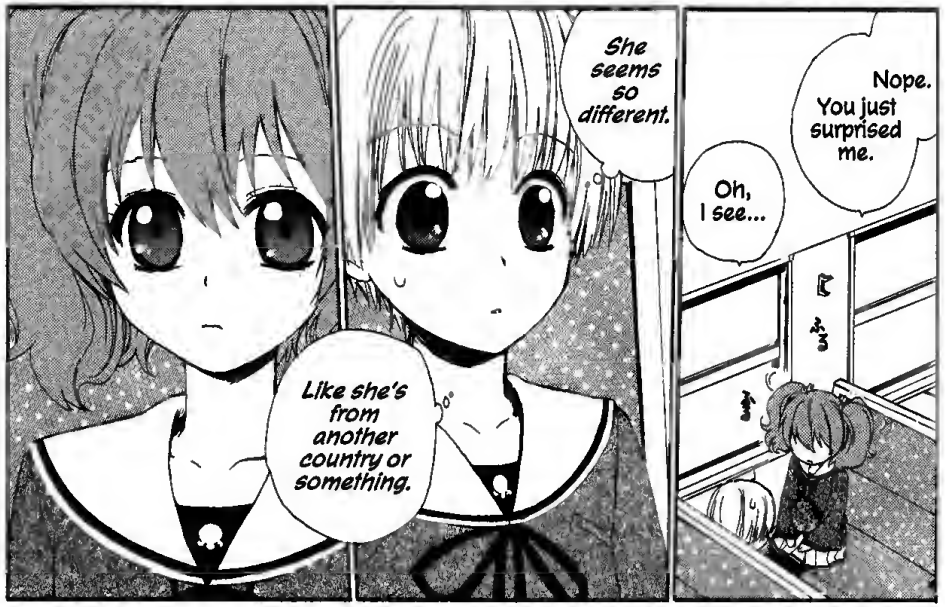
When did I fall asleep?


I almost missed my stop.
Whew!

It's spring.
The big day is finally here.

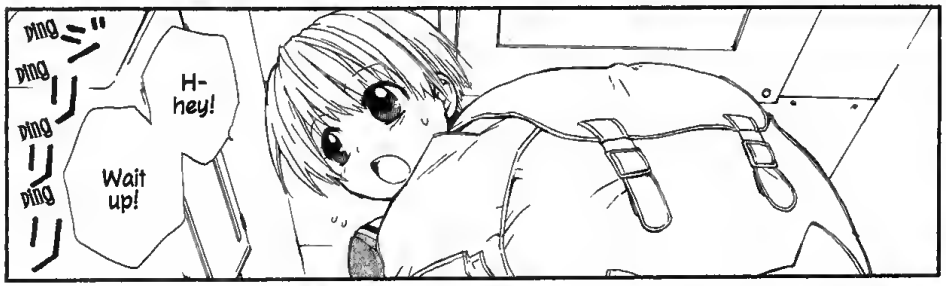


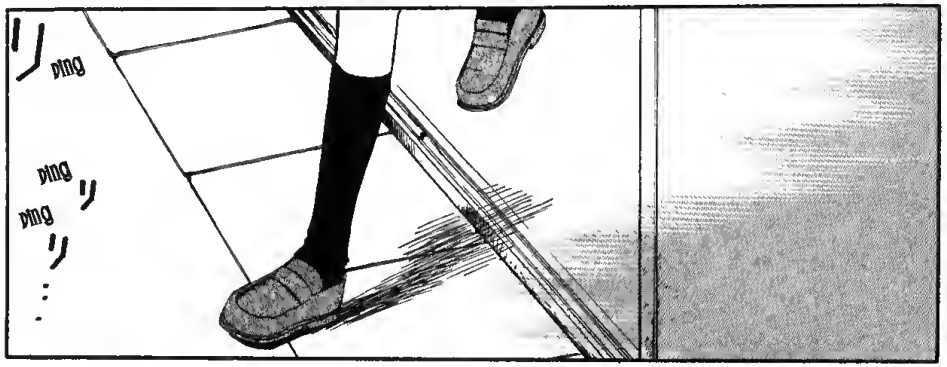




* "Neko" means "cat."

Ah!
This is our stop.
I wonder what the school's like?
ガタン
Huh?
She went on ahead?
Ooof!


ping
ping
ping
ping
H-hey!
Wait up!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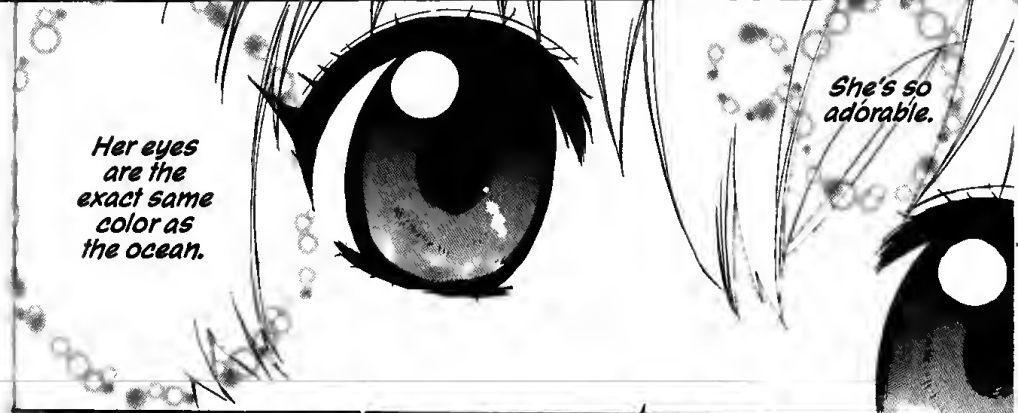
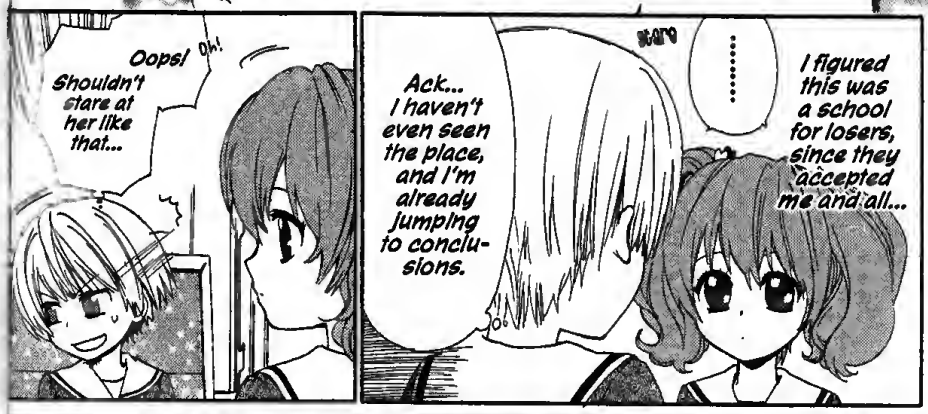
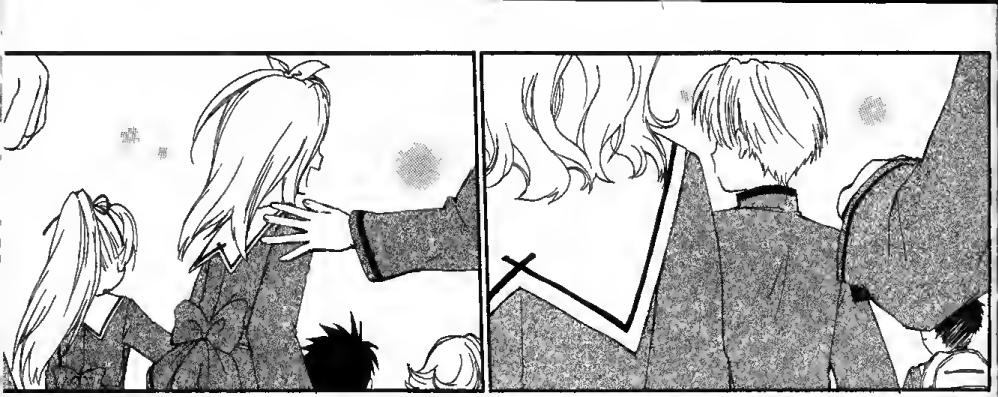

Her eyes are the exact same color as the ocean.
She's so adorable.


Oh!
Oops! Shouldn't stare at her like that...
stare
Ack... I haven't even seen the place, and I'm already jumping to conclusions.
I figured this was a school for losers, since they accepted me and all...

Huh...? You're a new student too?
Me too.



Ozuki

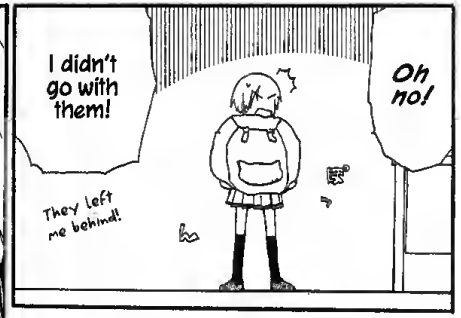
アナ

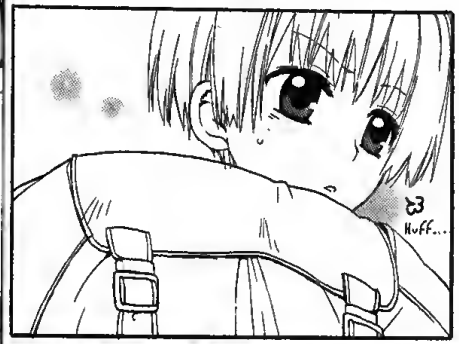
Huh? Oh...!
You waited for me?
Wh-whoa...
She didn't go ahead?

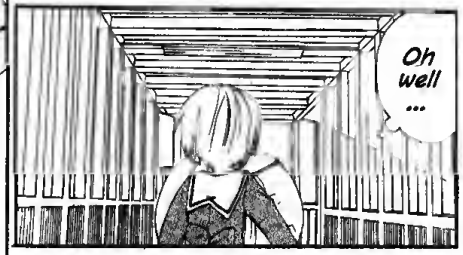
I was worried about going by myself.
No, I mean...
...thanks so much!

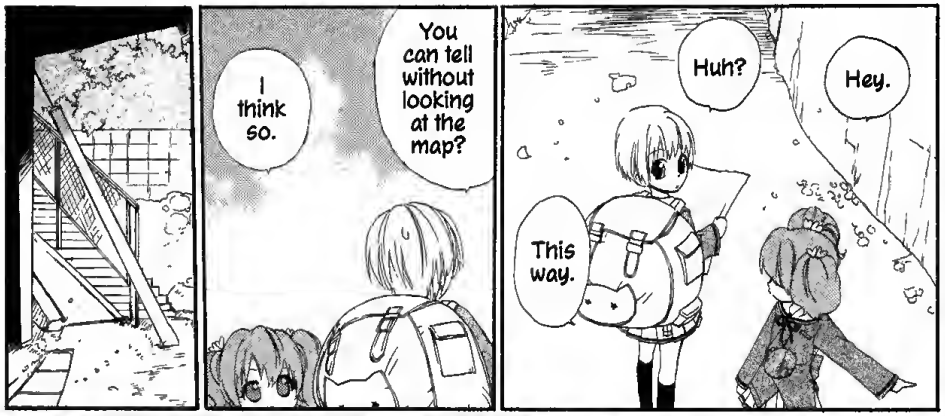
Yeah.
They did.
I thought everyone had gone without me.

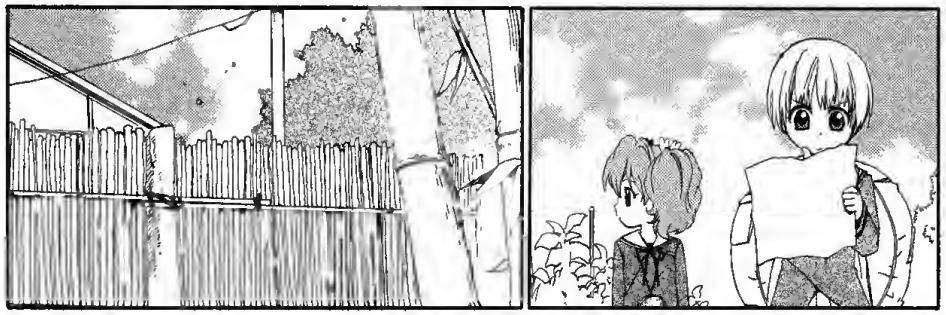
Wow.
There were that many students on the train?
.....


I didn't go with them!
They left me behind!
Oh no!

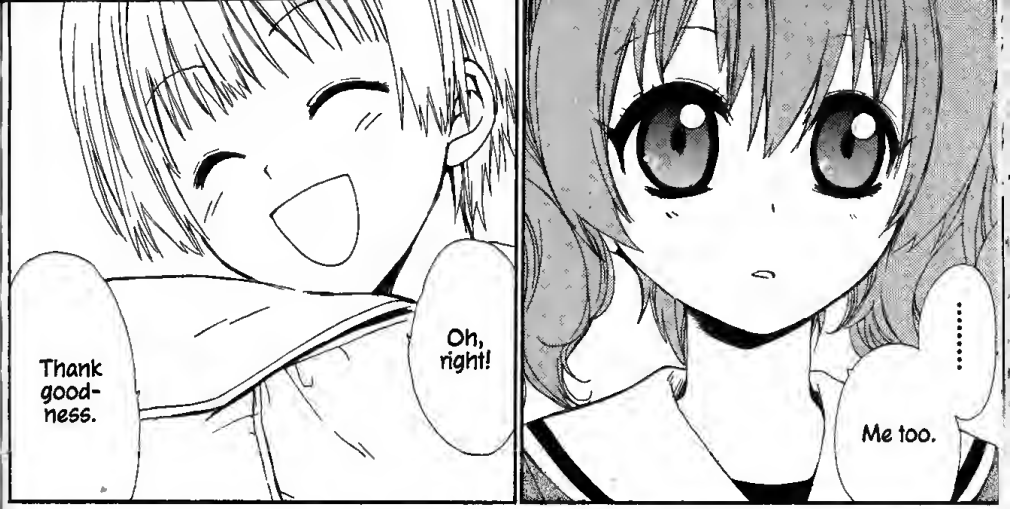

Huff...


Oh well ...

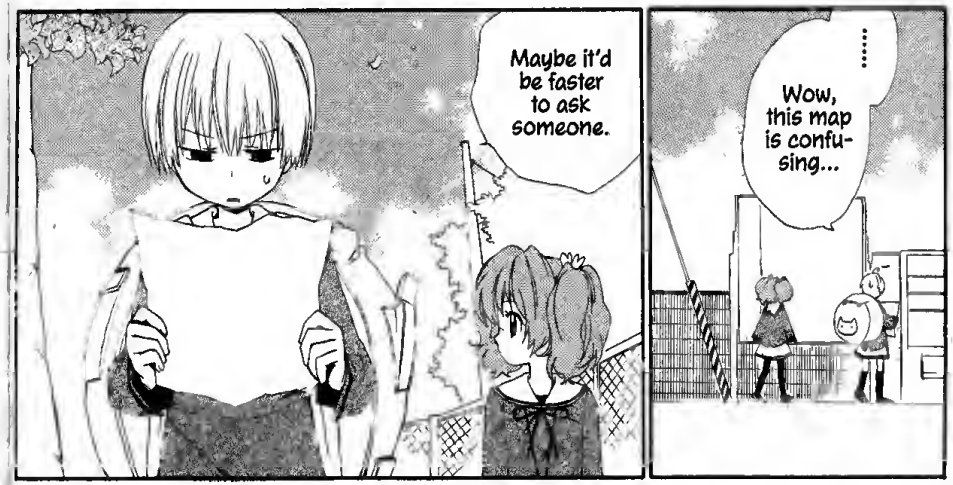

You can tell without looking at the map?
I think so.
Hey.
Huh?
This way.



Wha ...?
Seems like we're going deeper into the forest...
Is it really okay to go this way?


Thank goodness.
Oh, right!
.....
Me too.

Wait, it's too soon to be relieved!
All we've done so far is get to the station!


Maybe it'd be faster to ask someone.
.....
Wow, this map is confusing...

Welcome to Morimori High School
You should've said something sooner.
Ow ow ow...
...Yeah.
You okay?
What is...
...this?
This Way
Whoa!
Morimori High School
Station
...we made it!!!
This is it!
It doesn't look like a school at all, but...

I don't get it. I know I'm horrible with schoolwork, but I can figure stuff like this out!
The map isn't making any sense.
...Usually.
But this is...
Yikes, getting lost on my first day of school... Mom would cry...
What if we're lost out here?
is this an animal trail or something?
Wait...
KOK
Um...
Hey.
Why am I always so negative?
What if I never find it?
No, stop that!

I hope we're in the same class.
My heart is pounding.
I'm finally a high school student...
I have to treasure this moment!
This is a once-in-a-lifetime thing.
Neko Fukuta-san?
I don't know how, but we made it!
I have to admit, I was getting kinda--no, I was getting seriously worried!
Thank you!!!
This is so great! Anyway, I'll just put the map away...
Huh? What are you doing?
Oh, right! We need our acceptance letter to get in.
Don't you think this is weird, though?
Is this really how high school usually begins?
Wow, I'm so nervous.

Neko Fukuta-san!
Fukuta-san?
I'm gonna go for it!
Positive thinking time!
Okay!

She's so cute when she smiles.
Yeah!
Wow.
elcome to Morimori High School
This way
My new life is about to begin!
That's right!

All of the school's new students have received a letter of invitation.
Please present yours.
!
Yes!
Kizu-sensei.
No need to be so formal.
That must be the head-master...
Stand up straight. You are addressing the head-master!
Y-yes, sir!
Yes?

A human...
Huh?
!
I see.
So you came here in ignorance. How unfortunate.
Well, yes...
Of course...
In that case, I cannot accept this admission letter.

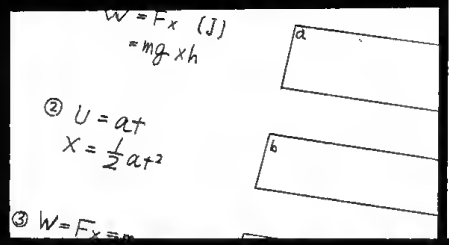
Relax! All I have to do is give it to them...
Th-thump Th-thump
They're laughing at me!
pfft.
Here it is, sir!
Here!
.....

Fukuta-san.
Yes, Head-master.
I'll take her.
Would someone...
...please escort her back to the station?
Wh-what...?
Neko Fukuta-san!
Rejected.
Why ...?

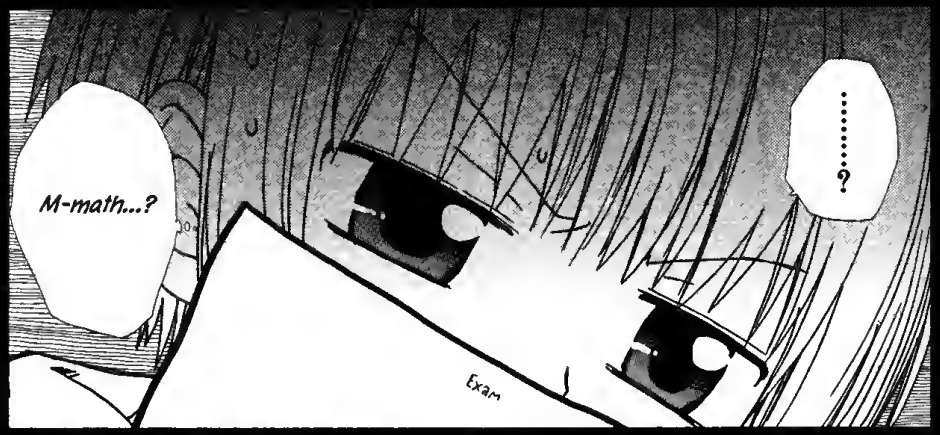
This really is the only place...
...I can go.
I know I'm not that smart! I admit it!
All the other schools flat-out rejected me.
But there's nowhere else for me to go.
Please!
Please let me enroll here!
Really?
It is unfair to send you away so abruptly.
You're right.
.....

Why won't you accept my letter?
Why? What's going on...?
I was accepted... I made it this far!
I-n-v-i-t-a-t-i-o-n
How can you reject me now?
Why?
Fukuta-san--
I don't under-stand!
Please... Please...!
.....

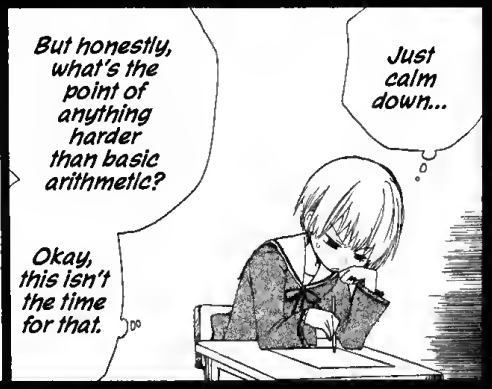
Seri-
ously?!
Huh?
You have 30 minutes.


W = Fx (J)
= mg × h
② U = at
X = 1/2 at²
③ W = Fx =

When did this paper get here?
Aah!


M-math...?
.....?
Exam

Right!
Probably everyone who comes here has to do this.
I've gotta do it too!


But honestly, what's the point of anything harder than basic arithmetic?
Okay, this isn't the time for that.
Just calm down...

Huh?
Wha-?
What's this?
I'm getting a bad feeling...
Please take a seat.
Where am I?

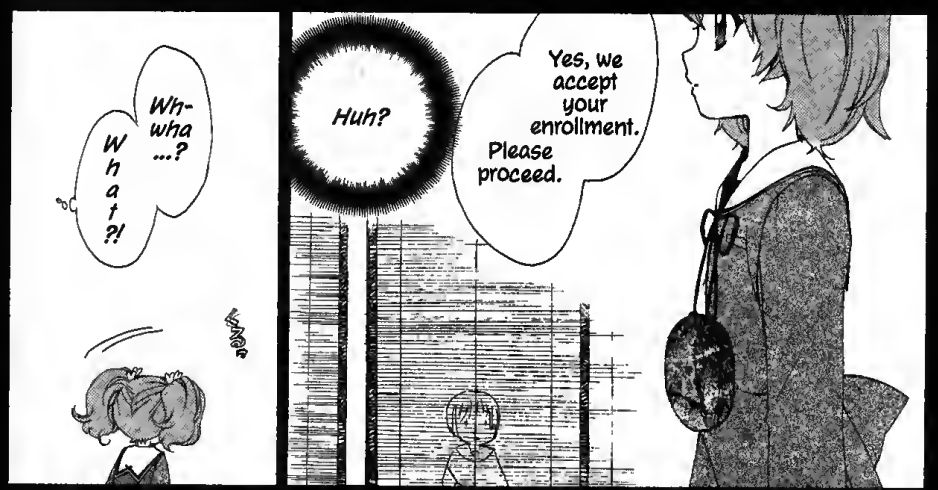
I'm terrible at written tests!
No!
W-wait!
You will have to pass the test.
I swear, my stupidity is at an all-time high!

I knew it!
We're going to have you take the test over again.

Suzuhara-san!
Su...
!!!
ぱっ

Huh?
Miiko Suzuhara-san.

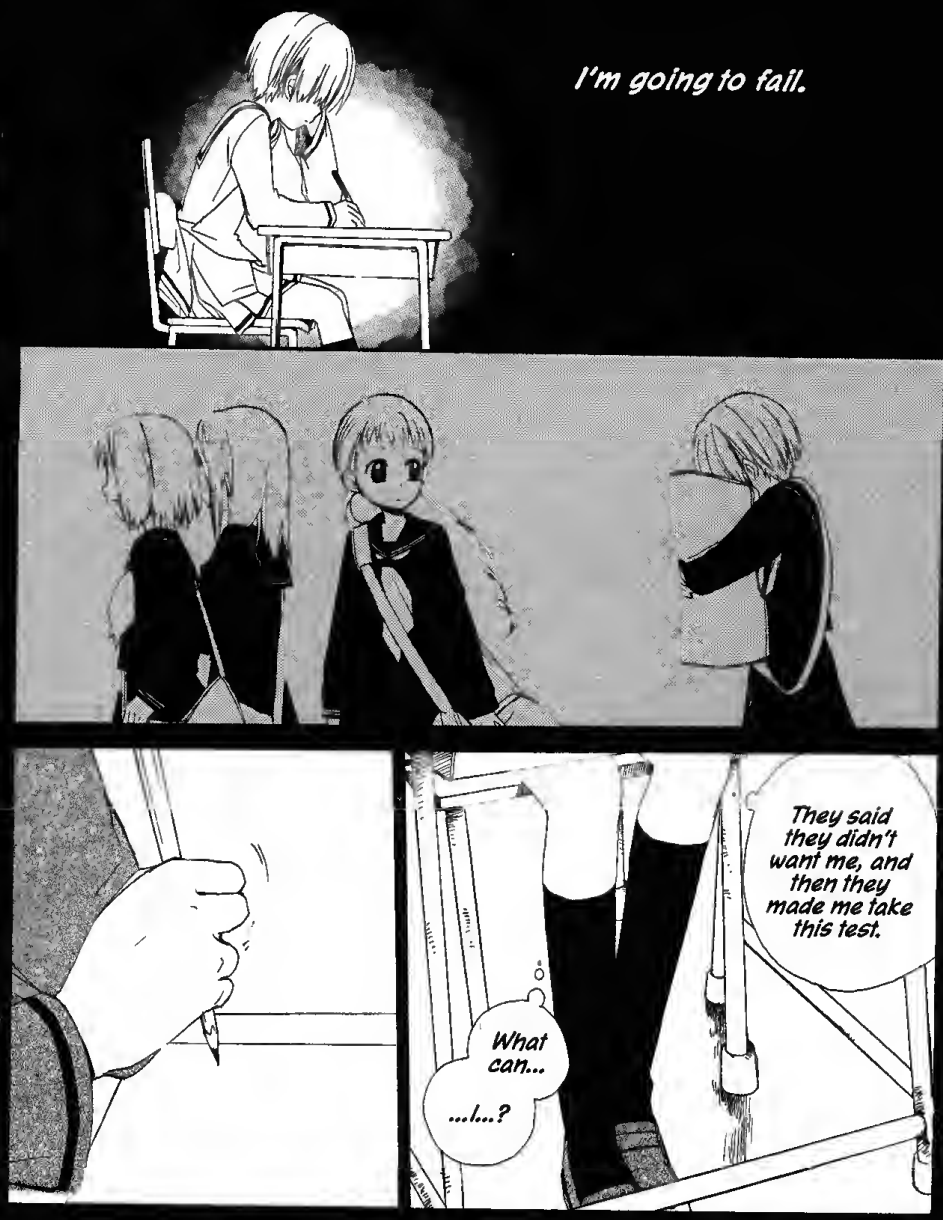
It's her!
Please show me your letter.
Yes.


Wh-wha...?
What?!
Huh?
Yes, we accept your enrollment. Please proceed.

.....
What should I do?

But I hadn't answered a single question yet!
What do I do?
No way!
The test just changed completely!
Did I fall because I stood up?
They didn't tell me that!
This is bad...!

How pathetic can I be?
How embarrassing.
How could I let myself get so excited?
I'm so stupid!
Stupid...
!
福田
"Me too."


I'm going to fail.
They said they didn't want me, and then they made me take this test.
What can...
...I...?

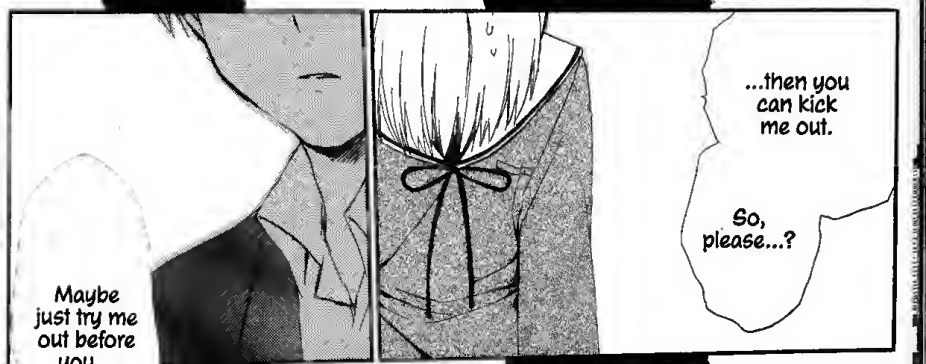
"I
Come on, pull yourself together!
I'm sorry, I can't do this!
But...
ハッ!

"I hope we're in the same class."

Please!
Please let me come to your school!
.....
...oh.
Umm...
I'll do the very best I can.
So...

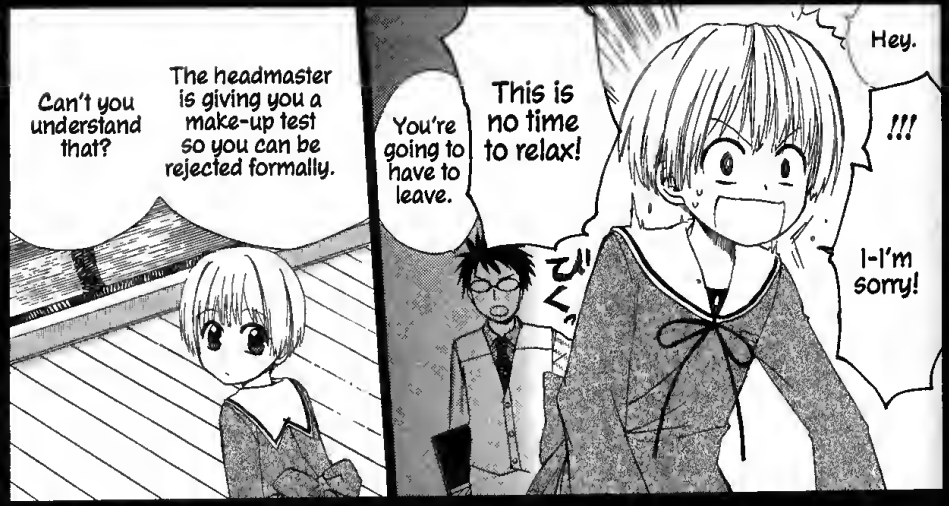
Please!
I promise I'll do my best!

Around and around...
My head's spinning like crazy.
...if I'm really not good enough...
...
then
...


...then you can kick me out.
So, please...?

Maybe just try me out before you...
Oh man.
I'm asking for so much...

What is it?
This thing going 'round and 'round...


Can't you understand that?
The headmaster is giving you a make-up test so you can be rejected formally.

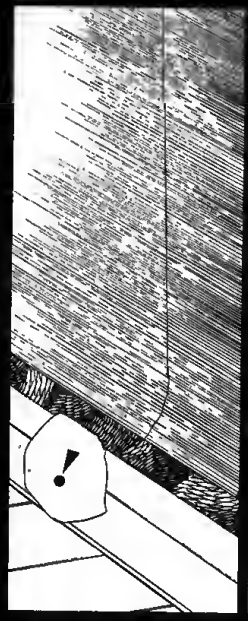
You're going to have to leave.
This is no time to relax!
Hey.
!!!
I-I'm sorry!

Sorry, it was just so funny...
Ha ha ha!
Watanuki-sensei?!
Pfft.
Ha ha ha ha!

Well, you're gonna have to!
I don't want to understand it!

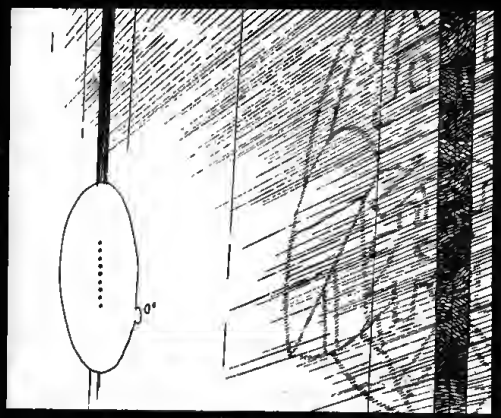
Neko Fukuta...
...finish the test that's in front of you now.
All right.

I've never met anyone like her.

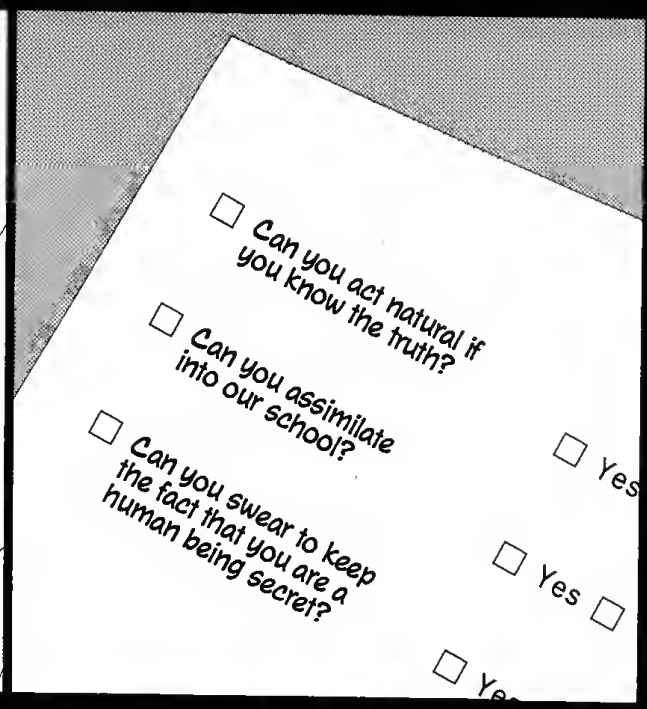

!

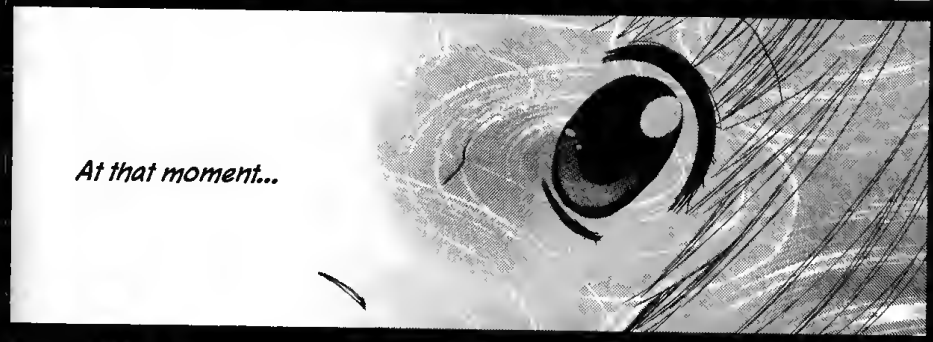
A snake...?

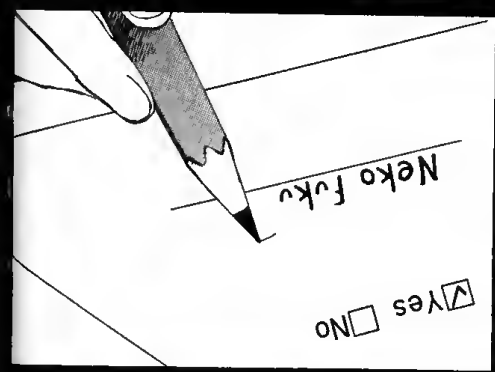
I was just day dreaming about a snake.
So that spinning I was seeing...


.....

Oh!
Glad I figured that out.


Can you act natural if you know the truth?
Can you assimilate into our school?
Can you swear to keep the fact that you are a human being secret?
Yes
Yes



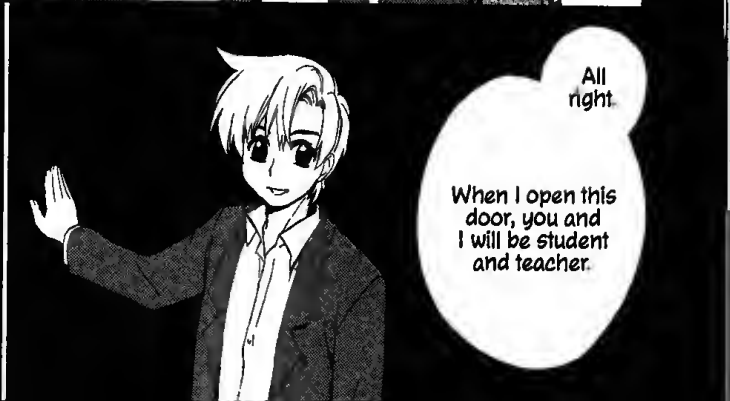


...I didn't let myself think too hard about anything.

I just cleared my mind and answered the questions in front of me.

To tell you the truth...

...this isn't a school humans should attend.



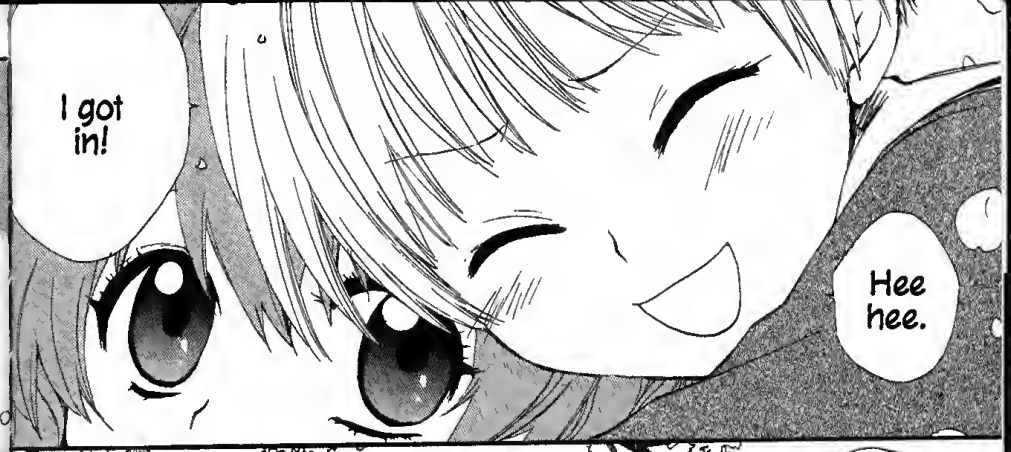
See? See?
Here!
The same class!
Our class color is white!
HUG!
ぎゅ..!

Fukuta-san!
We're in the same class!!!
Look, look! It's great!

I'm Watanuki, and I teach the white class. We'll start getting to know each other right away.
I'll begin by taking attendance.
New students, gather over here!

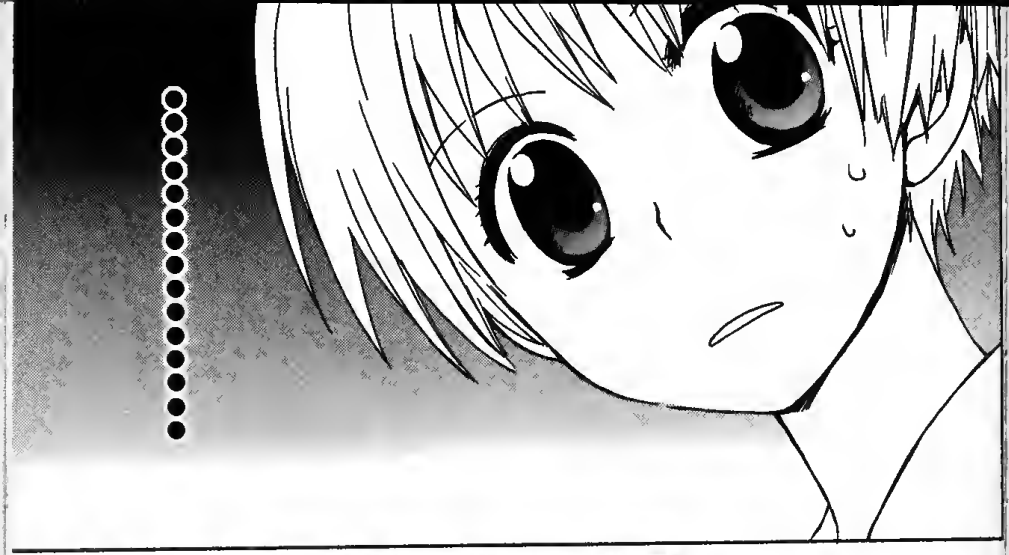
When you call on us, should we say what species we are?
Yes?
Sense-!

So that's our teacher...
The guy I just met.


I got in!
Hee hee.

?
Wahoooo!!!

All right!
I'm just getting started!

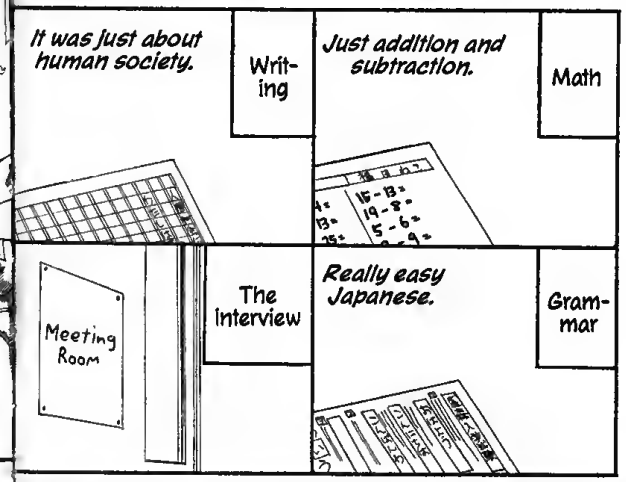

.....

Hmm...
Yay!
Yay!
I'm a cat.

Hey, any raccoons?
I'm glad I came here!
Me! I am!
I'm a cat!

Hey, you're a fox! Me too!
No way!

All right, I'll take attendance now!
I see.
...if you want to reveal it, go ahead.
You're all here to learn to become more human... but there's no rule against revealing your species or dropping your transformation, so...
...so I don't recommend it.
But it does get your clothes all dirty...

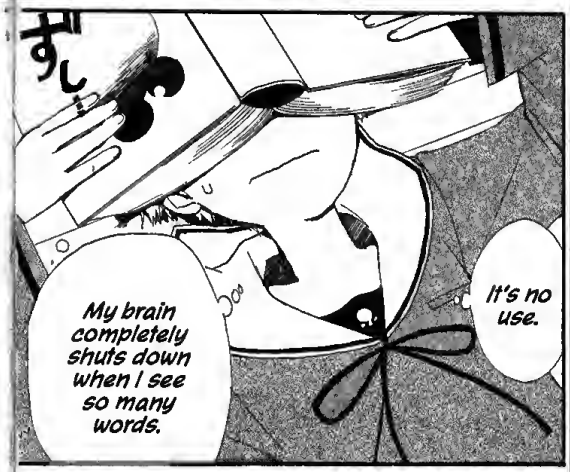


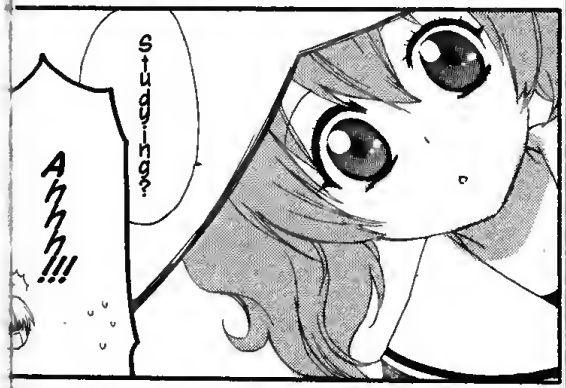
...there was something weird about the entrance exam for this school.

Specialty School for Magical Animals
MORIMORIGITEN
Morimori High School Encyclo-pedia
Almost everything about this school is in this book.
Look.
What's with the pause?
Just read this.
Shh!!!
Lower your voice!
I told you, this isn't a school for humans. It'll be bad if you give yourself away!
Am I still dream-ing?!
There's definitely something strange about this place!!!
Come see me if you ever need any-thing.
Umm... Are there... any other humans?
It's against the rules to answer that.
Later!
Hm...
.....
Maybe it's written in here...
You're in now.
You're my student.
Sorry about that.
Can I really be a student here?
It will?
(Whisper)
Isn't it obvious?
(Whisper)
So, wait...
Am I... ...the only human here?

Huh?
That's what everyone called me at my old school.
Oh, it's Neko.
What was that again?

Umm...
Uhh... Is it?
Then can I take the "fu" from Fukuta and the "ne" from Neko and call you Fune?
Um... sure...?
But that means "boat"...
Could she be...?
Hey, that's right--she didn't reveal her species or transform earlier.
So they just called you by what you are?
That's weird.


すし
My brain completely shuts down when I see so many words.
It's no use.


Studying.
Ahh!!!

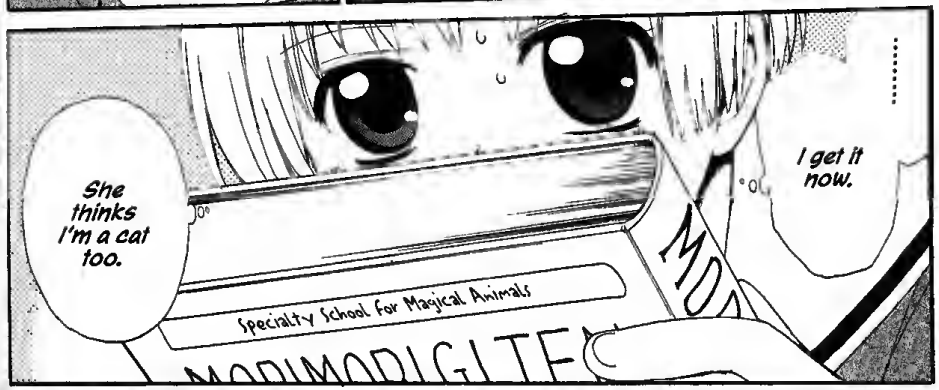
I can't study at all. You must be really smart.
Wow.
S-Suzuhara-san...
N-not so much.
Heh.
Oh! You can just call me by my first name.

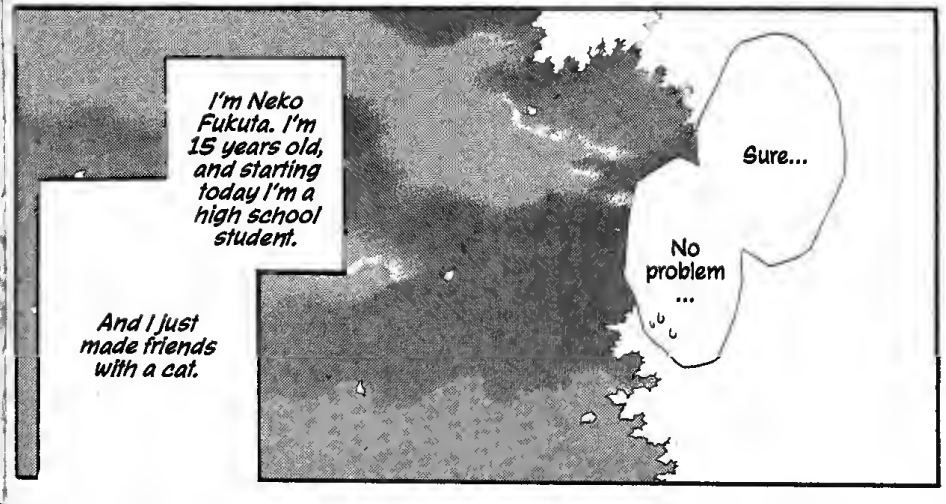
.....
MOMOKOGITAN
MOMOKO

Let's go!
...she's a human too!
She just said...
... "same types" ... didn't she?
So that means ...
Yeah! It'll be great to--
Hup!
MOR I MOR IGITEN!
Oops.
MORI

So, then...
...I've been looking for you, Fune-san!
Really?
We're going to be roommates!
Tee hee!
But we're in the same class and the same room! Lucky us!
They let the same types room together.
I'm so glad! I was a little nervous.
Oh, that's right. The dorms.

Report.2 Sniff Sniff

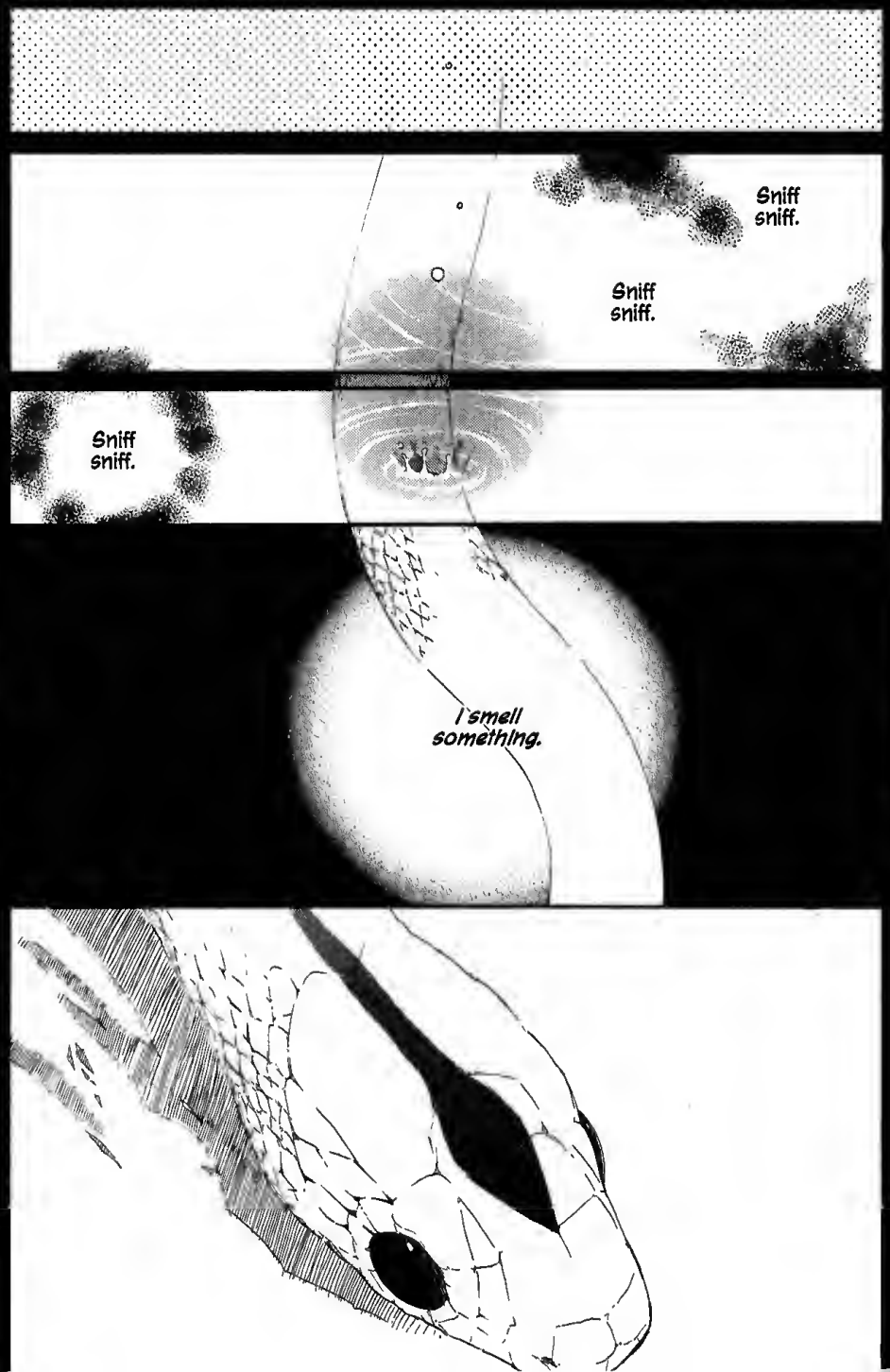



I'm Neko Fukuta. I'm 15 years old, and starting today I'm a high school student.
And I just made friends with a cat.
Sure...
No problem ...

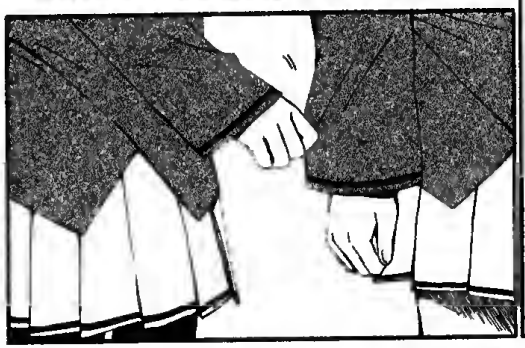
Sensei, are there any girls here?
The girls have their own dorm, of course.
This is the boys' dorm.
All right, everyone!

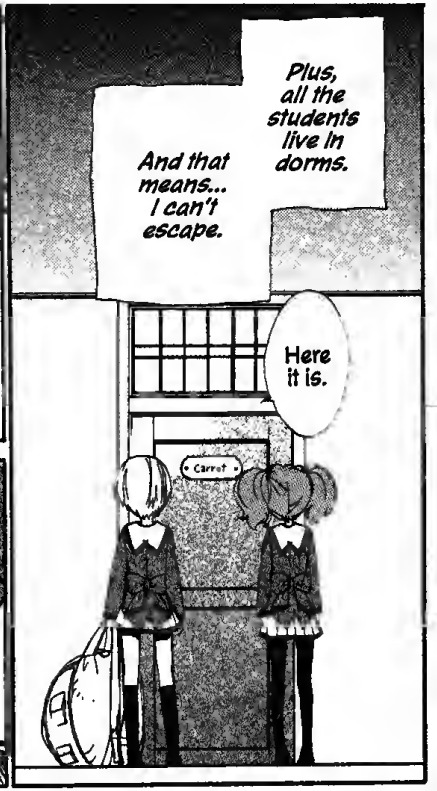
Kino-shita-kun!
Hey, pay attention!
A snake! A snake!

Hmm?


Sniff sniff.
Sniff sniff.
Sniff sniff.
I smell something.

I'm still reeling from it all.
C'mon, self, chin up!



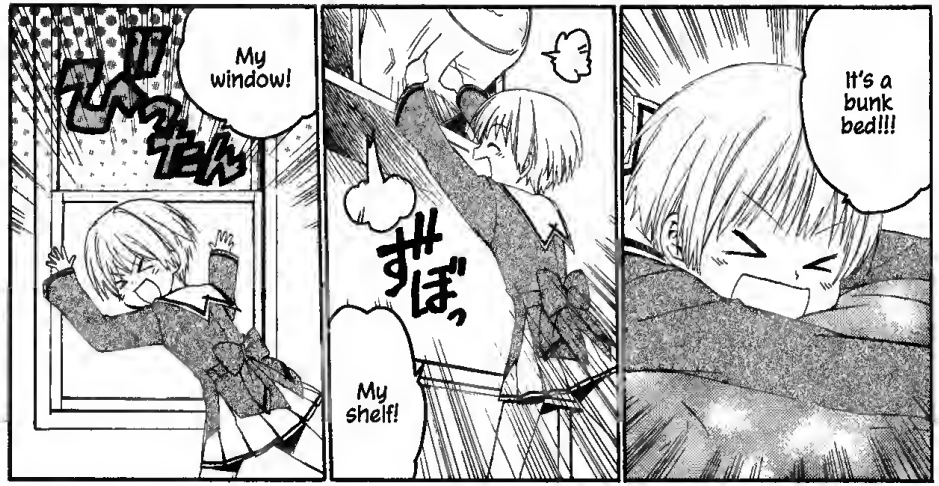

Plus, all the students live in dorms.
And that means... I can't escape.
Here it is.
Carrot

That's right--I've decided to do the best I can here.
This is it?
Yep!
This is my roommate, Miiko Suzuhara.

Aww, the snake got away.
Well, good.
He bit me!

Sen-sei!
Then it's a student! Cut that out!
No way.
Did it come in from outside?
Hisss!

I'm Neko Fukuta.
I begged this school to accept me as a student, but then it turned out to be a school for animals. What a shocker!

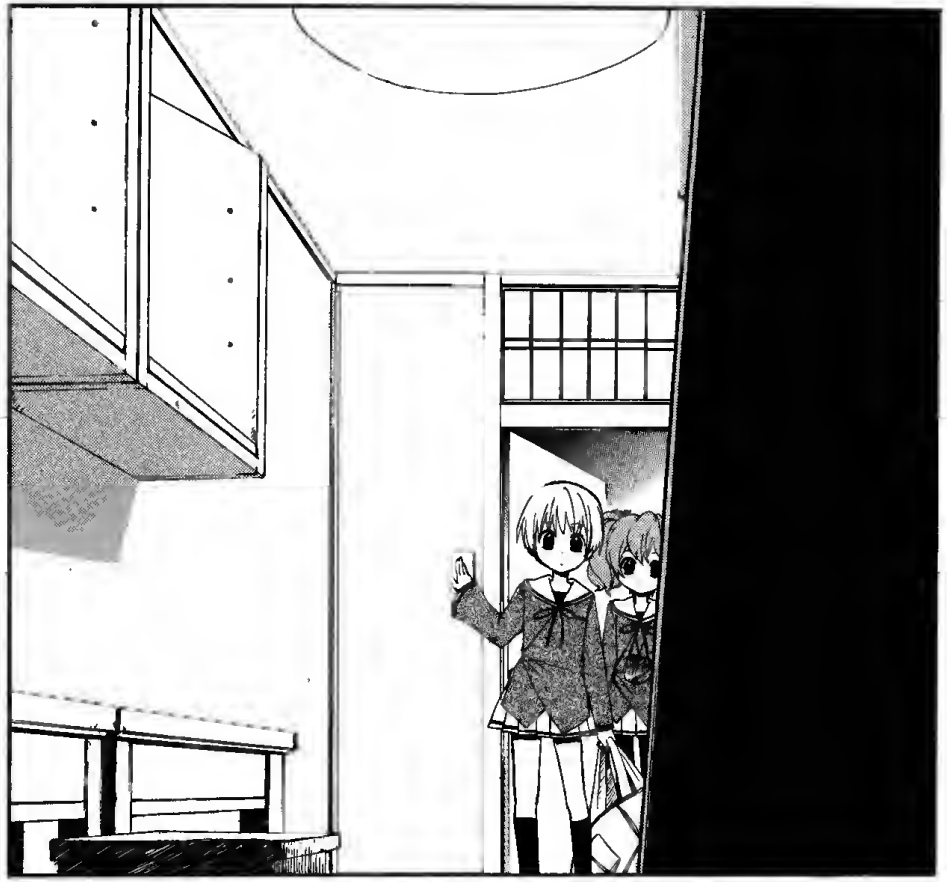

My window!
すぽっ
My shelf!
It's a bunk bed!!!

What a weird shape...

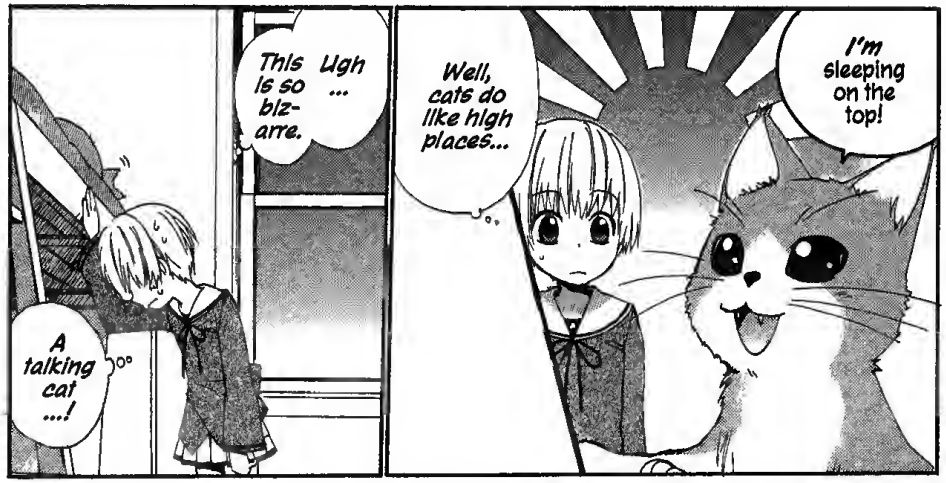
Oh!
There's the school.

.....
Miiko?

Are we on the east side or the west?
Hey, Suzuhara-san...

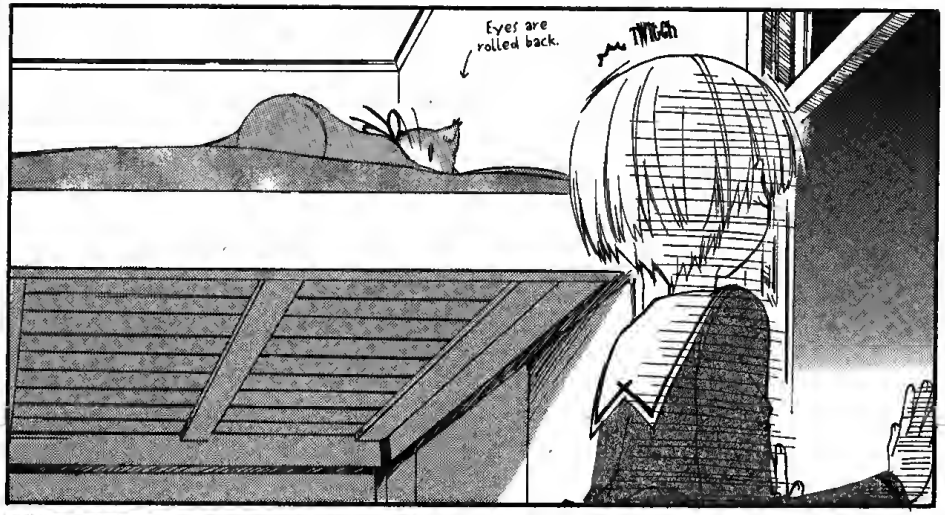


.....
WOOOW!

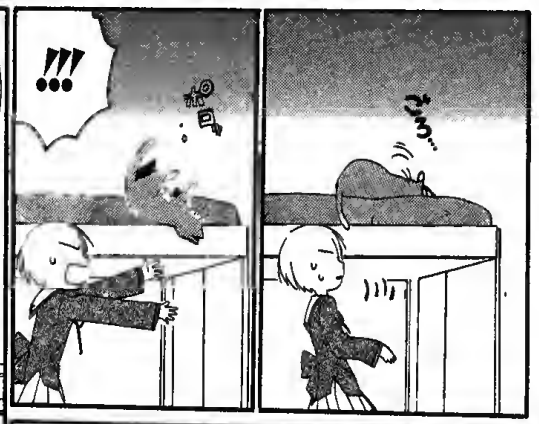

Ugh ...
This is so biz-arre.
A talking cat ...!
Well, cats do like high places...
I'm sleeping on the top!

...a magical cat, isn't she?
She ...
... really is...

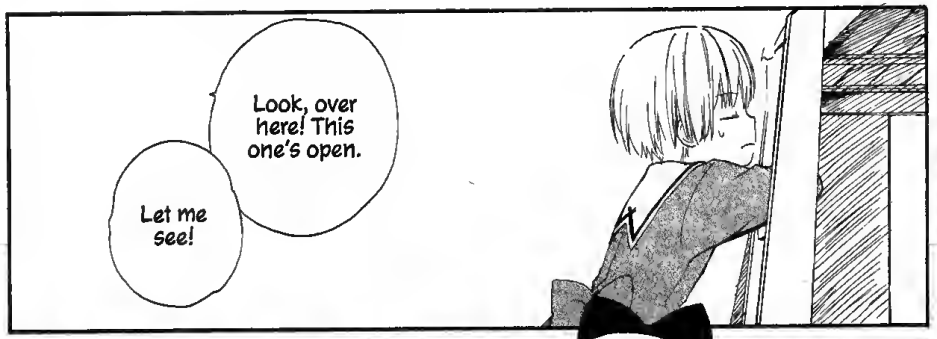
I figured she was more mature than this, though.
I guess it was because she was so quiet...
Something did feel different about her right from the start.


Eyes are rolled back.
TWITCH

No!
Should I take the top bunk?
I messed up.


!!!
...

Huh?
Uh... are you okay?

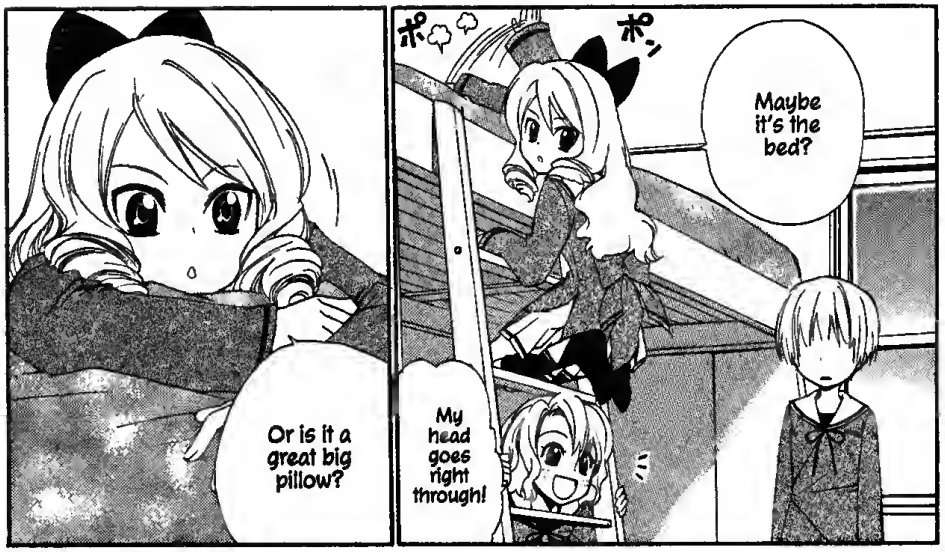

Look, over here! This one's open.
Let me see!

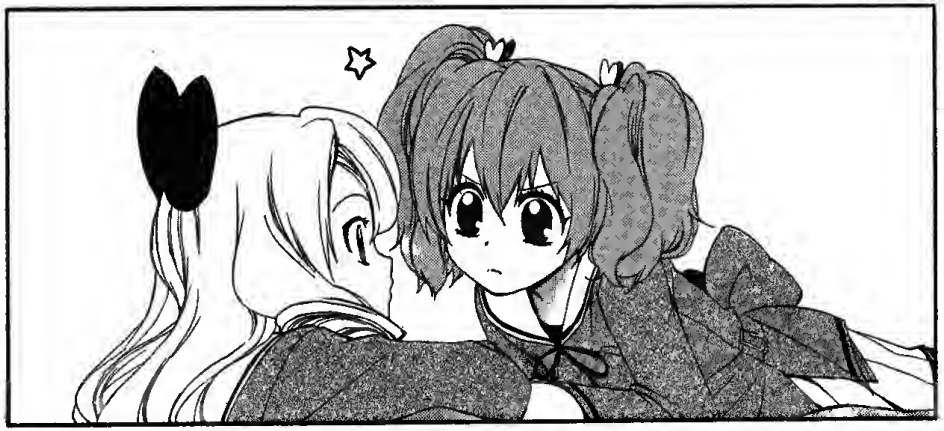
Oh, so this is what they're like.
Kind of small, don't you think?
Or maybe this room's smaller than the others?
What's your name?

Fukuta-san!
We're in the same class!
We're in the same room!

How will I survive here?
.....

All these ... ... magical animals ...
"Then can I take the 'fu' from Fukuta and the 'ne' from Neko and call you Fune?"

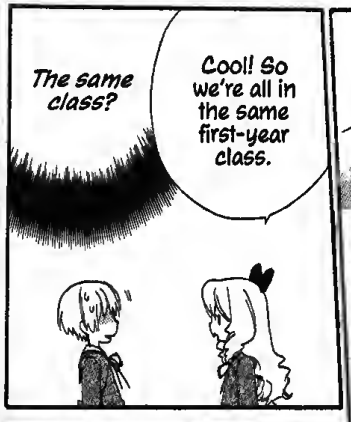

Or is it a great big pillow?
My head goes right through!
Maybe it's the bed?



What's your name?
So you're in this room too?
Oh!

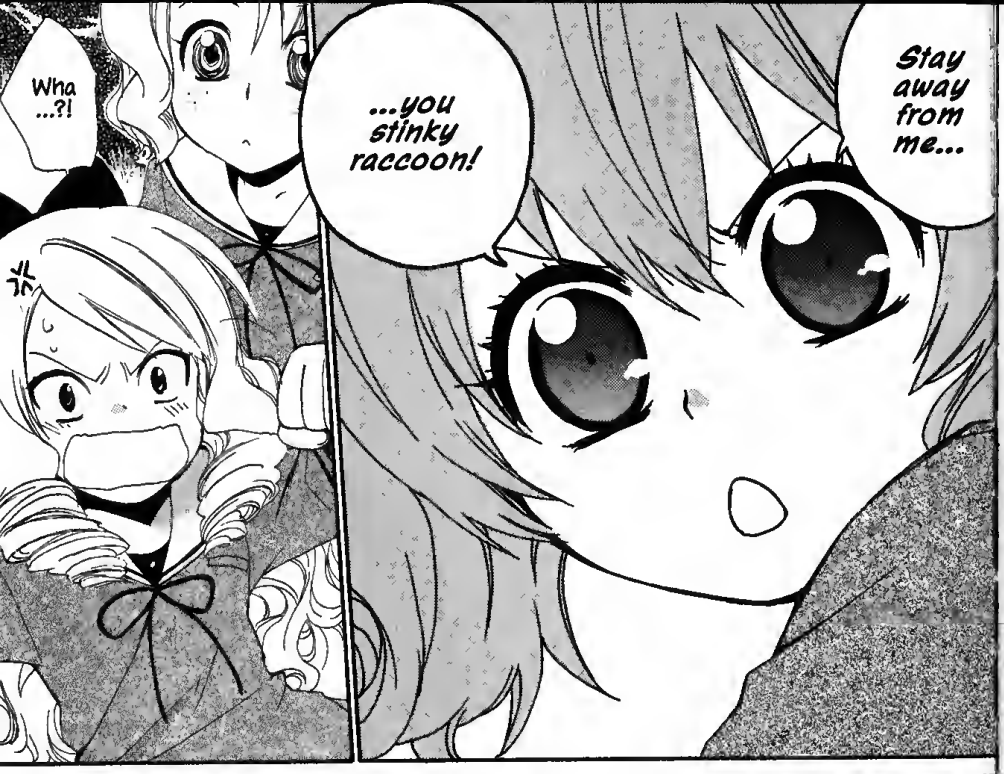
What's with these people?!
Wha--?
WEIRD

What a weird name.
Neko? You're named after what you are?
It's Neko Fukuta.


The same class?
Cool! So we're all in the same first-year class.

Hey, what's that?
Let's check it out.

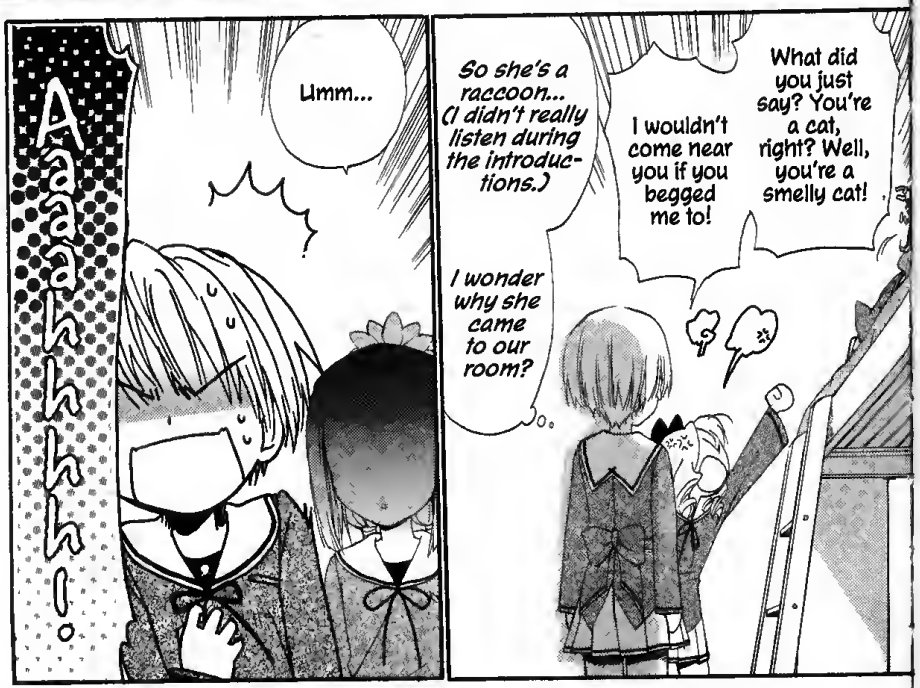
I'm Reira Eisenji.
And this is Wakaba Usuu.
Oh! I'm Tome-rin!
Oh, does this come with the room?
No... That's my stuff...


Stay away from me...
...you stinky raccoon!
Wha ...?!

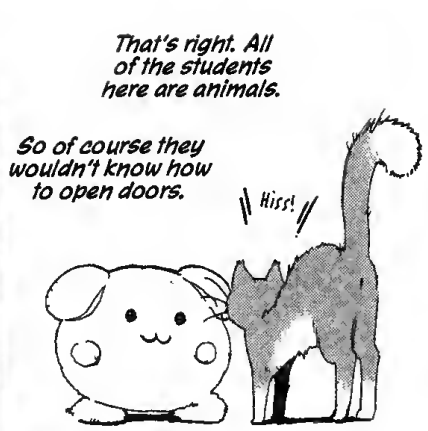
ぽん

?!!

Hey, what was that for?!
Eep!


Aaaahhhh!
Umm...
So she's a raccoon... (I didn't really listen during the introductions.)
I wonder why she came to our room?
I wouldn't come near you if you begged me to!
What did you just say? You're a cat, right? Well, you're a smelly cat!

First, you grab this and turn...
...then just push it open.
If that doesn't work, try pulling.
Oh! I get it!


That's right. All of the students here are animals.
So of course they wouldn't know how to open doors.
Hiss!

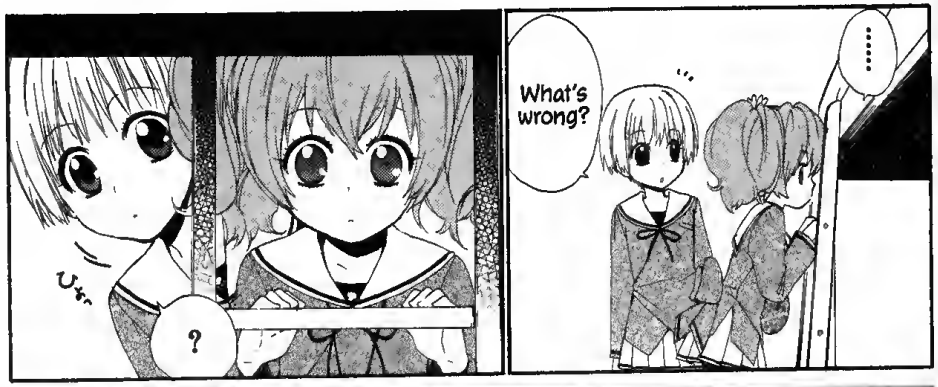
See you tomorrow!
'kay. Later!

R-really?
Wow, that's pretty cool!
Thanks, Fukuta-san!

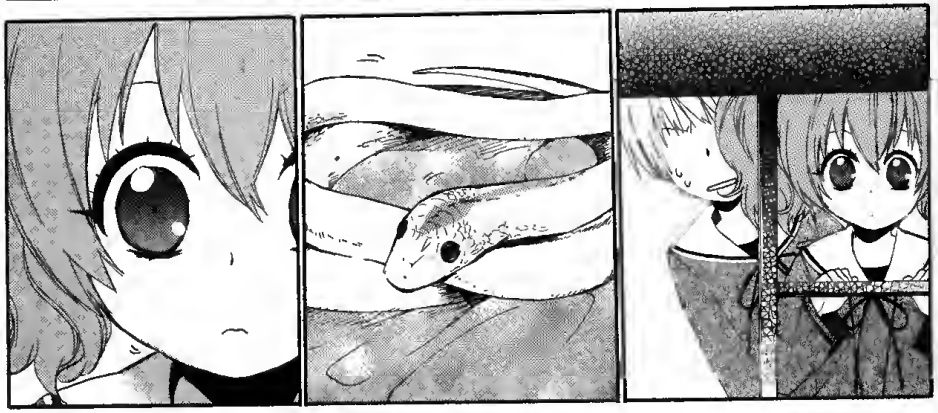
Somehow we wound up going to all of our classmates' rooms.
I feel like we did our good deed for the day.

1
The door's open!
2
Lemme see!
This is the only room that's open, so...
...could you please...
...show us how to open the door?

I didn't even notice her.
H-how long have you been there? Are you a raccoon too?
Um... I meant to introduce myself before.
My name is Umeka Kamaba.
Um... Could you please do us a favor?


?
What's wrong?

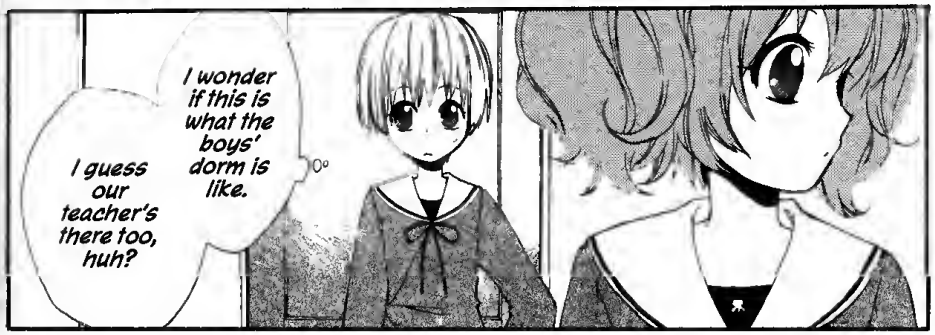
There's a snake.



She was the one who said she'd follow us...
Are you okay? You look tired.

Miiko-san?

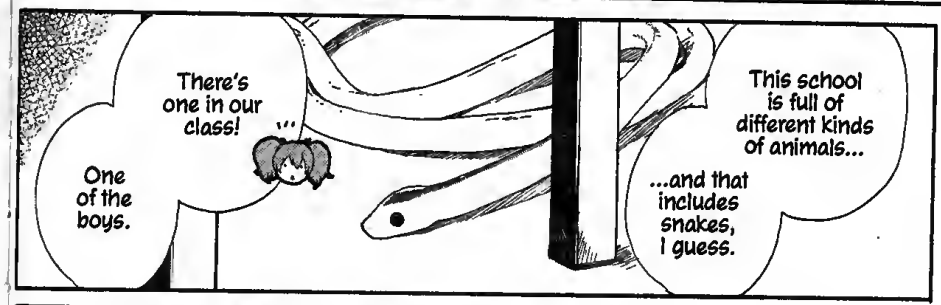
Um... Our room's this way.


I wonder if this is what the boys' dorm is like.
I guess our teacher's there too, huh?

It sure is friendly.
Huh!

sniff sniff.
sniff sniff.

Miiko-san, what are you doing?!
バシ
バシ
バシ
Wha...?
Hey-!!!
I couldn't help myself.

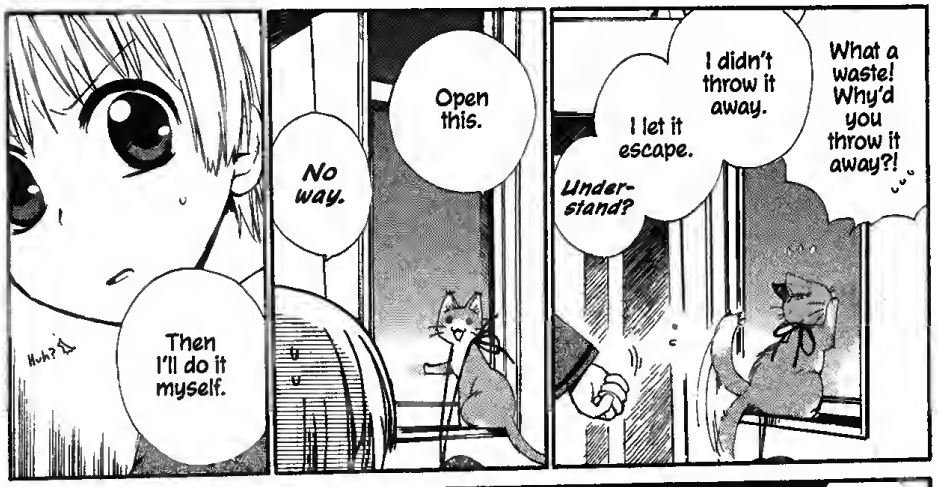

There's one in our class!
One of the boys.
This school is full of different kinds of animals...
...and that includes snakes, I guess.

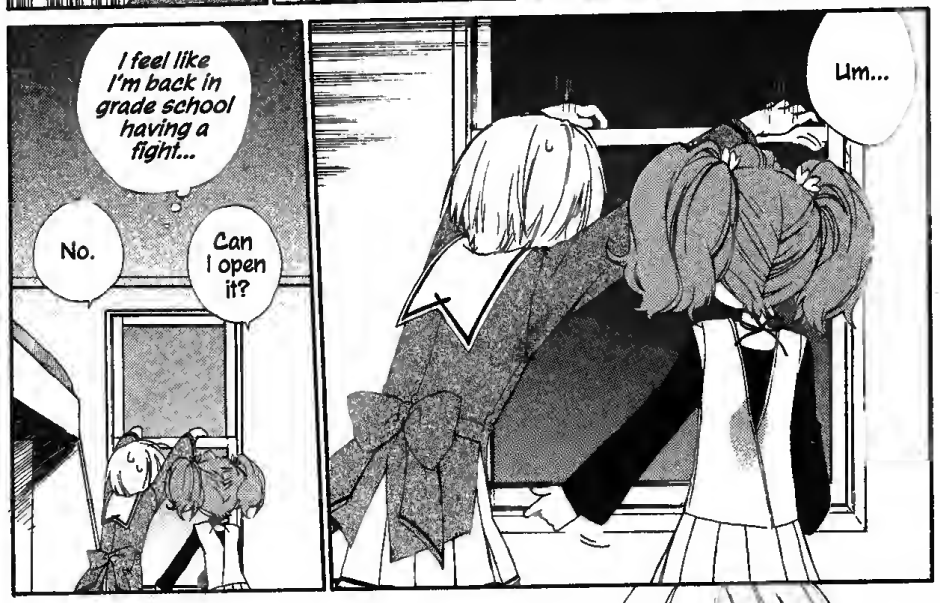
A snake, hmm?
I've never owned one, so I don't know much about handling them.

?
.....
You know that and you attacked it anyway?

Can it talk?
What're you staring at, little guy?
Are you a student here?
I'm Neko Fukuta, a new student!
Who are you?

Shall I put it out of its misery?
No! No killing!
Tooth-marks!
It's hurt!
If you ate it, there'd be a student missing from class tomorrow.
Oh. Right.
We can worry about that later.
Come on, Miiko...
What if this is actually a classmate?

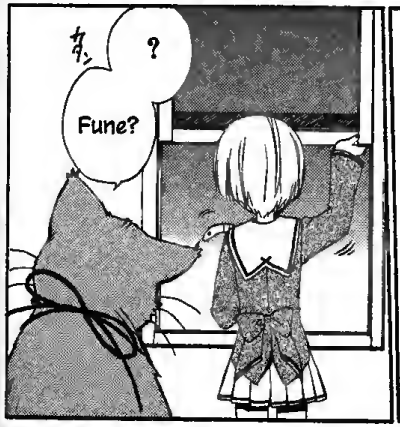

Huh?
Then I'll do it myself.
No way.
Open this.
Understand?
I let it escape.
I didn't throw it away.
What a waste! Why'd you throw it away?!

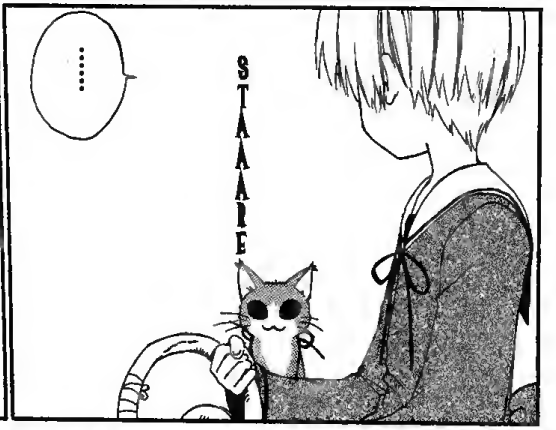

I feel like I'm back in grade school having a fight...
No.
Can I open it?
Um...

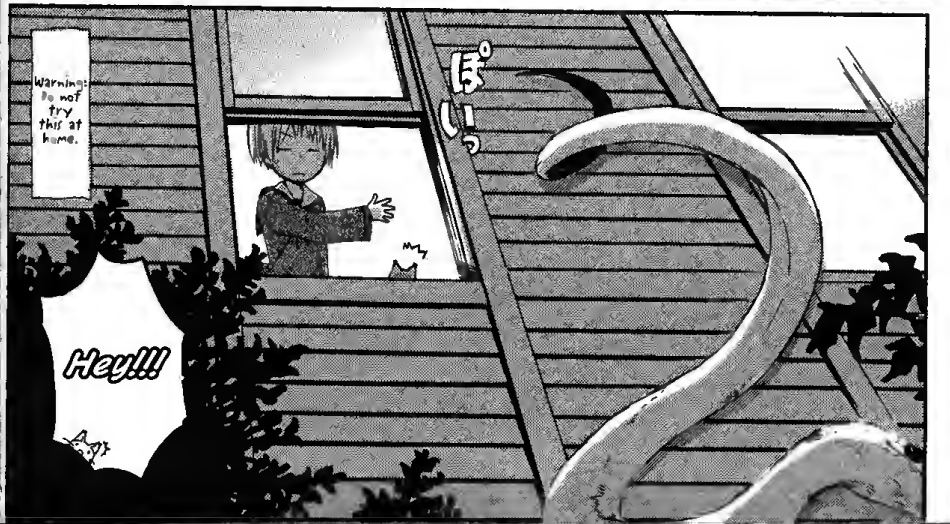
Mean Fune!
You're so bossy.
Is this what she's really like?

Paw attack!
Wh-what are you doing?

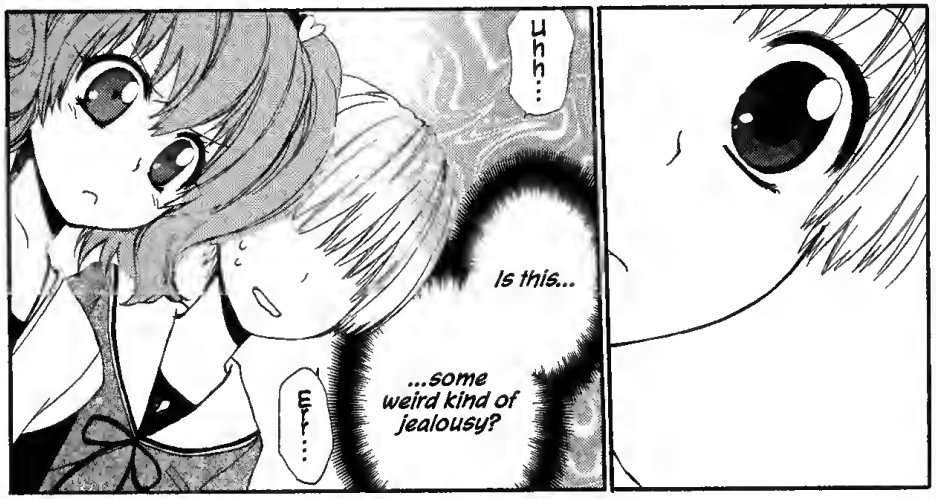
SWAT
FLUMP

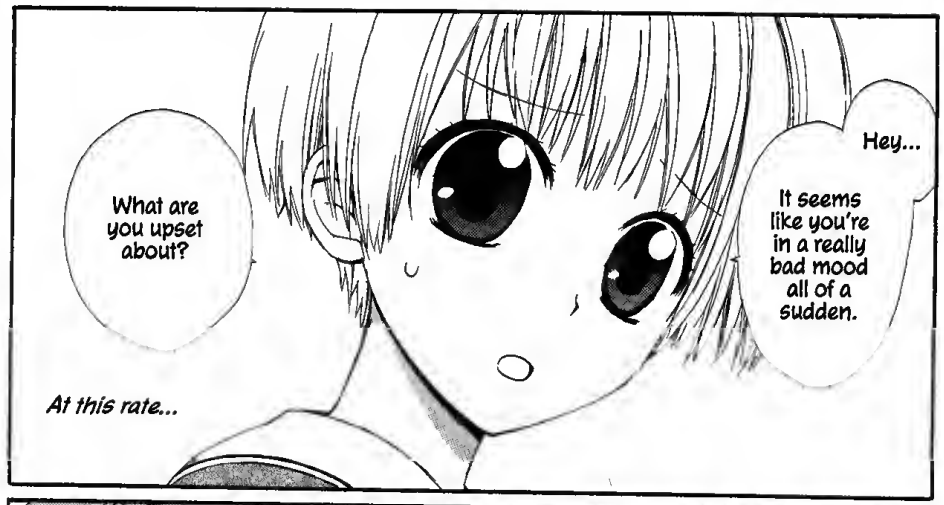

Fune?
?


.....
STAAARE

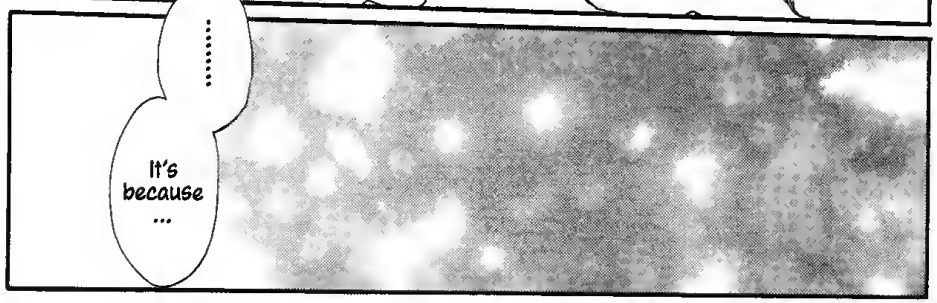

Warning: Do not try this at home.
ぽいっ
Hey!!!

...
you're
...
...nice to
everyone.


Hmm...
Is this...
...some weird kind of jealousy?
Eh...

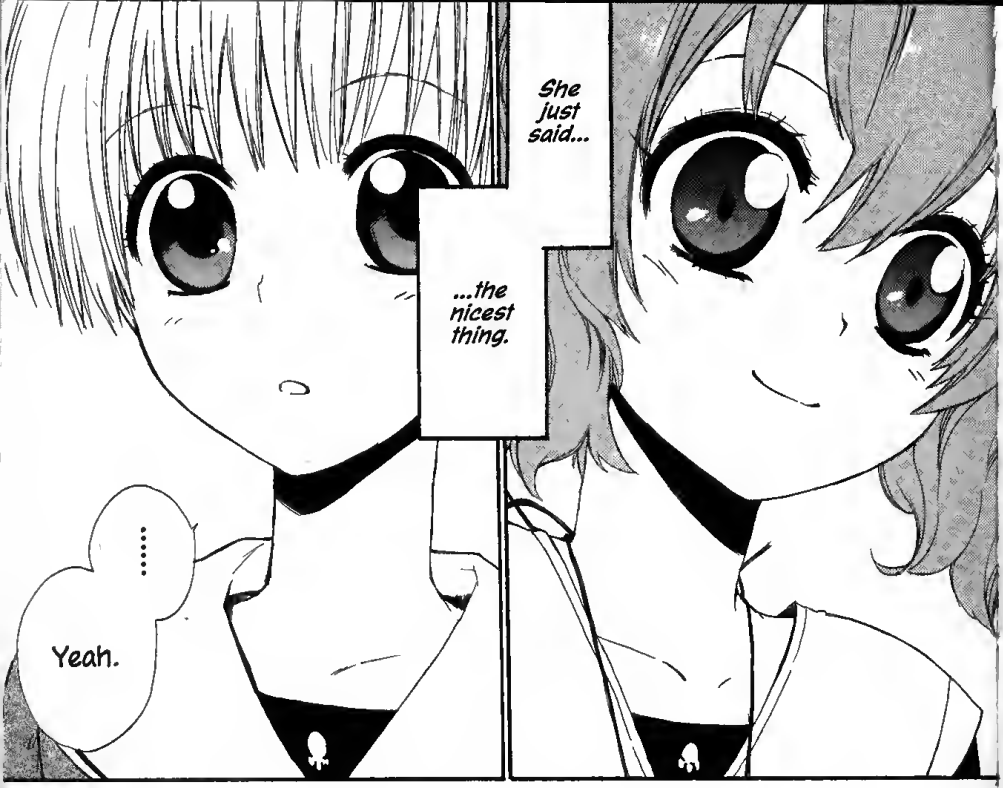

What are you upset about?
Hey...
It seems like you're in a really bad mood all of a sudden.
At this rate...

...I don't know if we can even get along...

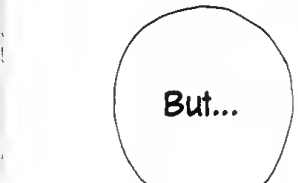

.....
It's because ...

We were just at that other cat's room, right?
I didn't like that.
It smelled really strange.
Well, sure.
Cats all smell different.
Really? Why?
I don't know.
It's just how I feel.
It's like some kind of discrimination.
It calms me down.
But you know what?
I really like your smell, Fune.

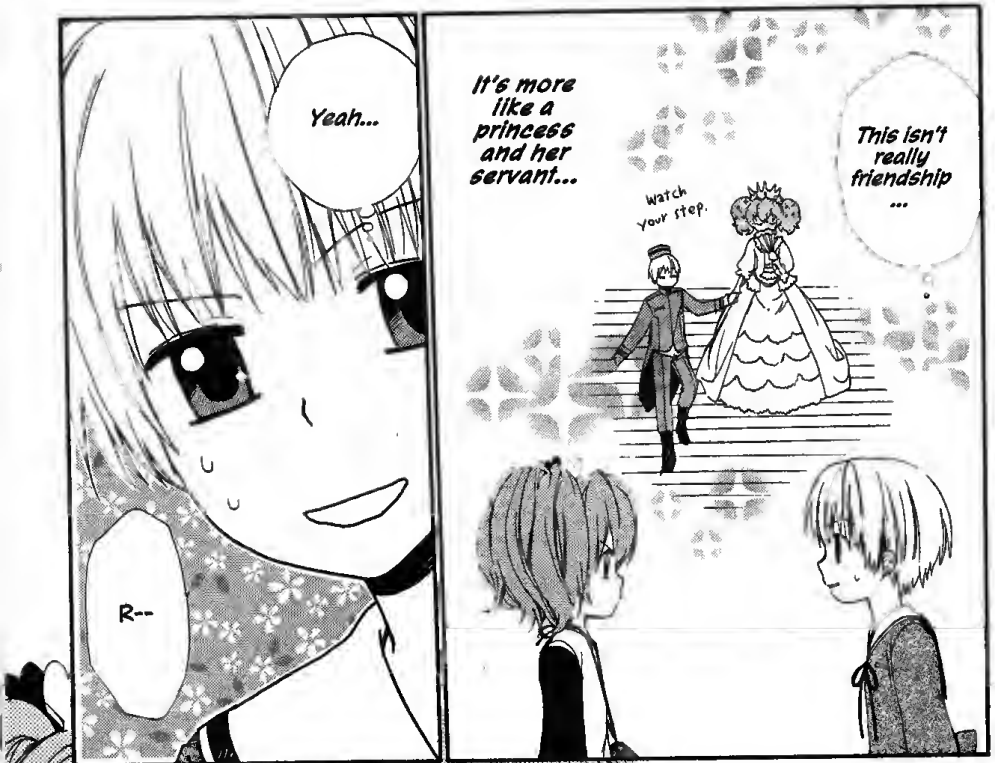
Well? Didn't they?!
Really?
Uh...
But they really did stink!
But I still don't think you should call them stinky raccoons...
Oh... Right...
You smelled all that?
And there was even a snake!
And all the others!
And then we went to the fox room!
Huh?
D-don't I...smell different too?
You have such a sharp nose...
* Human
Th-thump
Th-thump


She just said...
...the nicest thing.
.....
Yeah.

And I had only just met her.
Same for me.
It was so encouraging to hear that she was going to this school.


But...

That's why I stopped being so anxious and worried...
...when I found out we were going to be classmates and roommates.


Yeah...
R--
It's more like a princess and her servant...
Watch your step.
This isn't really friendship ...

Right...
So basically...
...she's just really selfish.

I'm the only one you should be nice to.

I really think...
...you should stop being so rude to everyone else.

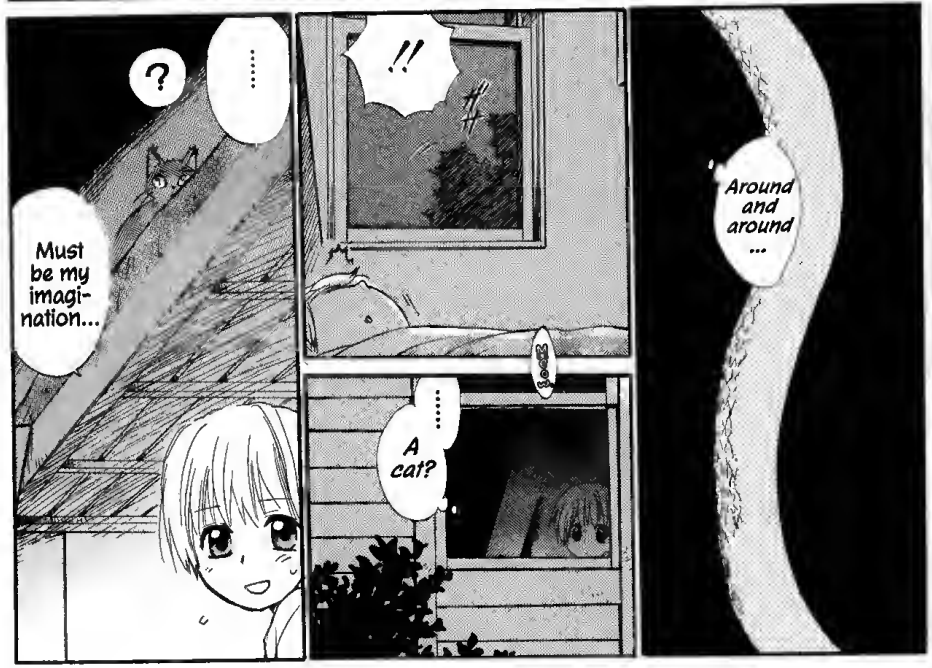
...and open all the doors for me.
It's not like I'm some boy--you don't need to be jealous...
You should walk in front of me...
Umm...
.....

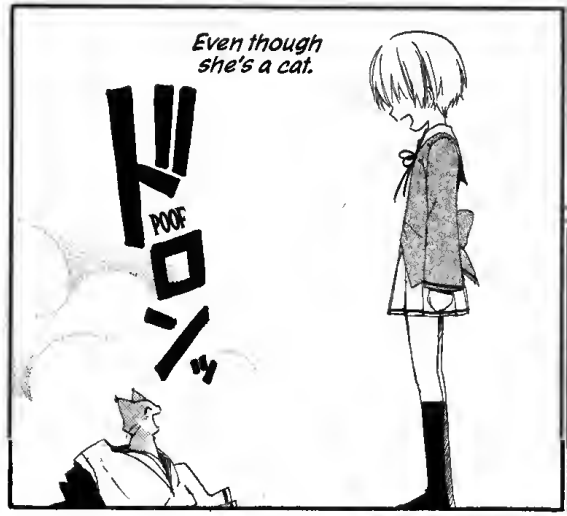
You'll carry my bags when they're heavy.
You'll go where I want.
And I'll sleep above you.
I'm the only one who gets to call you Fune.
I gave you that name.

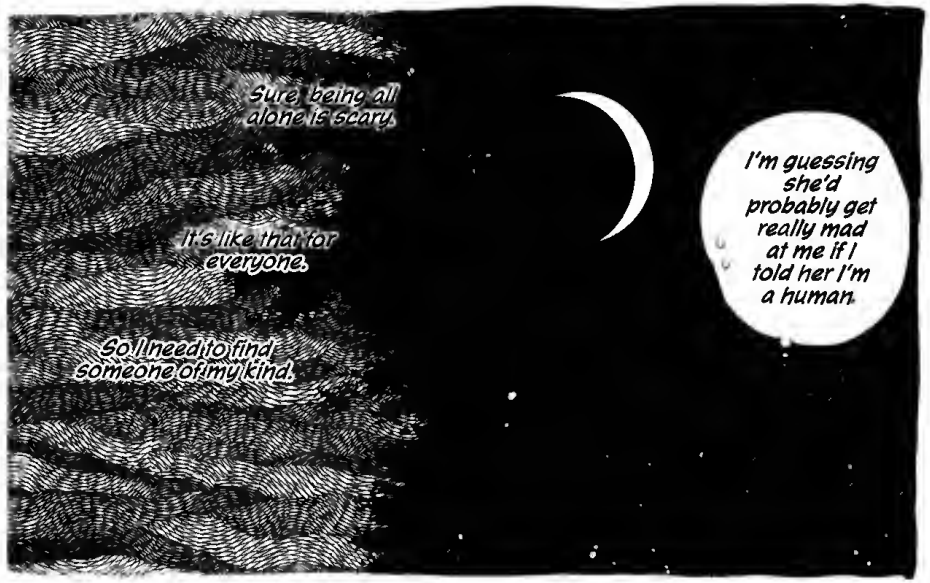
I have to believe there are other humans here.

It's the only way I can stop worrying.

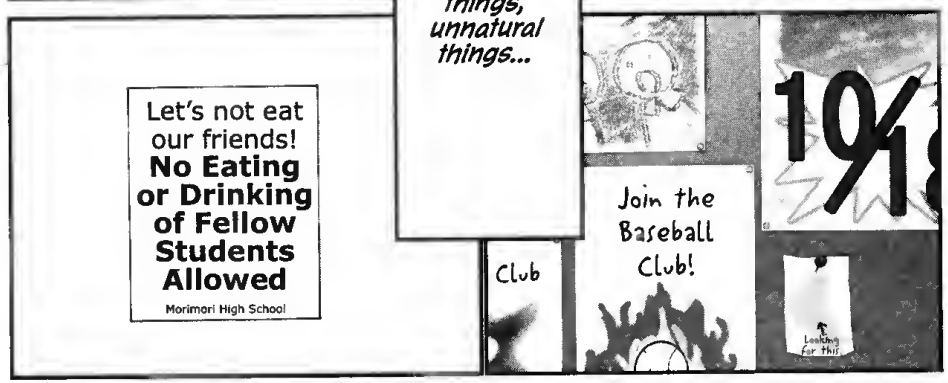
How will I survive here?

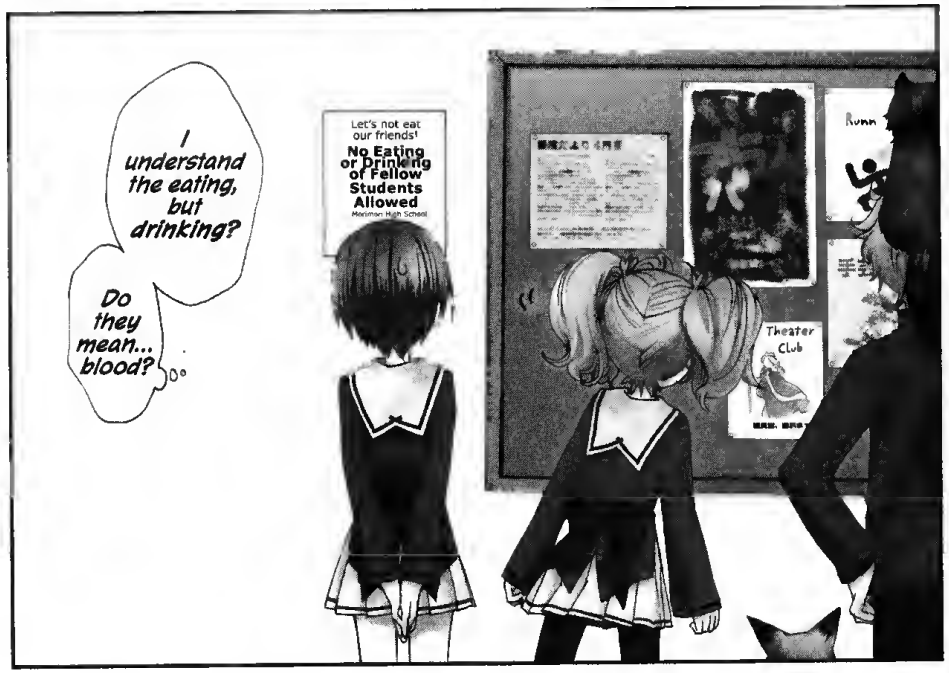





Sure, being all alone is scary.
It's like that for everyone.
So I need to find someone of my kind.
I'm guessing she'd probably get really mad at me if I told her I'm a human.

Natural things, unnatural things...


Let's not eat our friends!
No Eating or Drinking of Fellow Students Allowed
Morimori High School
Join the Baseball Club!
Club
Looking for this!


I understand the eating, but drinking?
Do they mean... blood?
Let's not eat our friends!
No Eating or Drinking of Fellow Students Allowed
Morimori High School
Theater Club

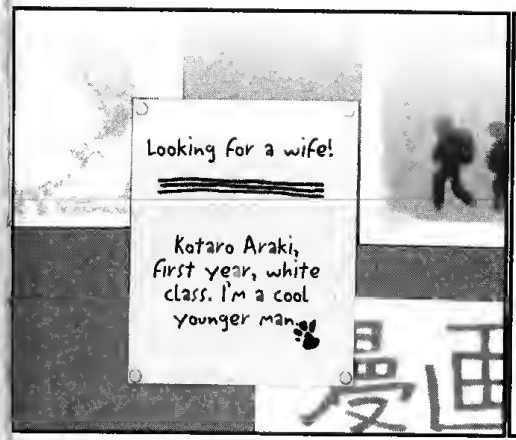
Report.3 Huh? What?!

Ow!
WHACK!

And one more thing.
Don't write stuff like this on the back of your class schedule and put it on the bulletin board.
Looking

Are we clear?

What the heck?!
No fair attacking from behind!
Show more respect to your elders! And no feet on the desks.


Looking for a wife!
Kotaro Araki, first year, white class. I'm a cool younger man.
漫画

Hmm?

W-wife...?

Kotaro Araki!

Wow... She's sleeping like a baby!
What the heck?! It's just a stupid piece of paper!
Respect!

I can just borrow Yuichi's schedule.
The answer I'm looking for is, "yes, sir."
But I put a lot of work into writing that!
So that's the guy looking for a wife...
Did you come to school to find yourself a bride?
Yes, sir!
That... wasn't what I wanted to hear that time.
Make up your mind!
Anyway, here's your schedule back.
No.
Hold on to it.
I'll go put it up again ...
Wait... Miiko sits right behind him.
I wonder if she'll...

Aah!
She isn't--?!
じっ
じっ
ぱしんっ
……
!
Sorry... I didn't mean to do that!
……
Ouch ...
ずきん
ずきん

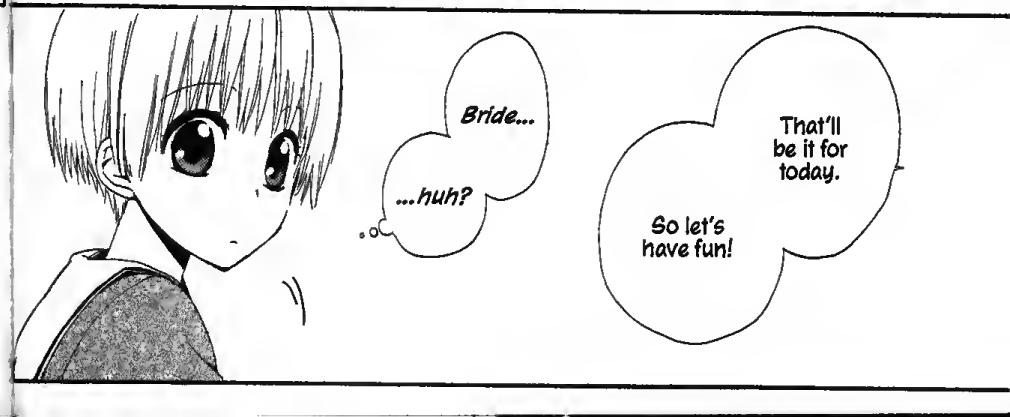
Uh...fair enough. Sorry for getting you involved.
She hit the teacher!
Are you okay?
I got out of the way in time.
Time's up.
.....
If you can tell me what class this is, I'll let it slide.
You...
I'm not okay, Sensei!

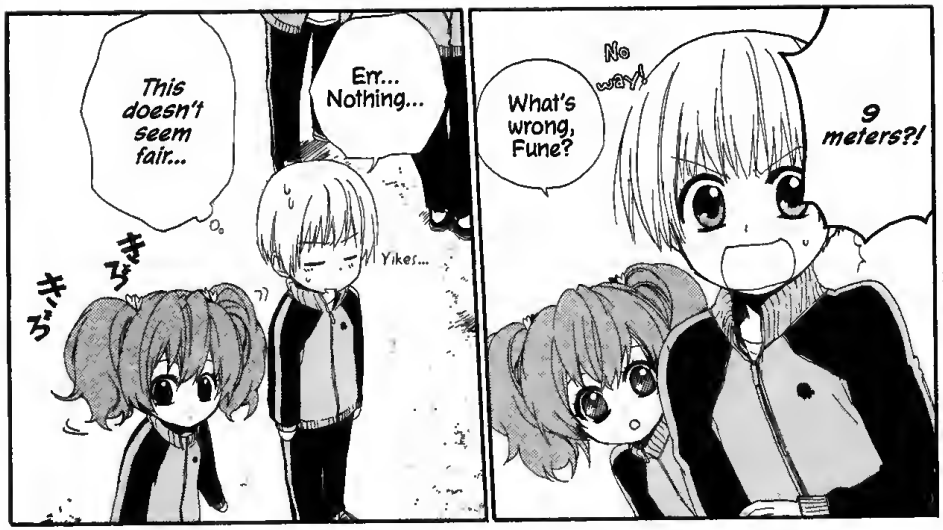
...I guess we're at that age.
I mean, you hear a lot about...
...people marrying their high school sweethearts.
It sounds a little extreme, but...

I wonder if Miiko's going to be bringing boyfriends to our room...

All right, eyes up front.
We're going to assign everyone's class duties and have PE.
Oh dear.

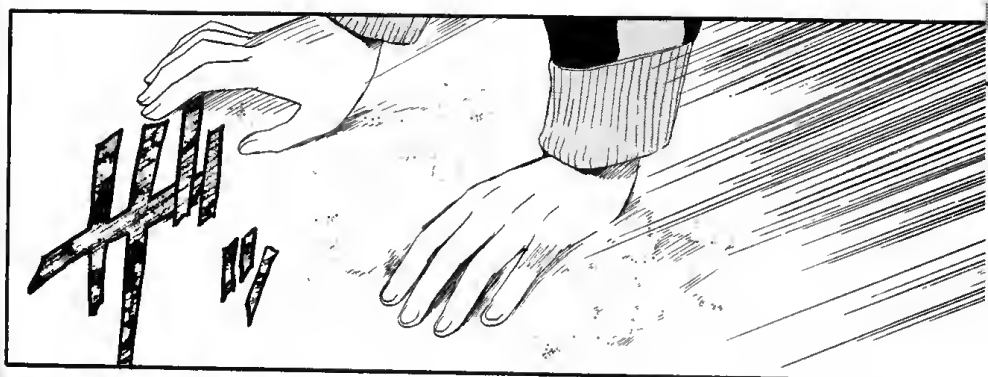
5.7 meters!
5.7 meters...
Next! Kotaro Araki!

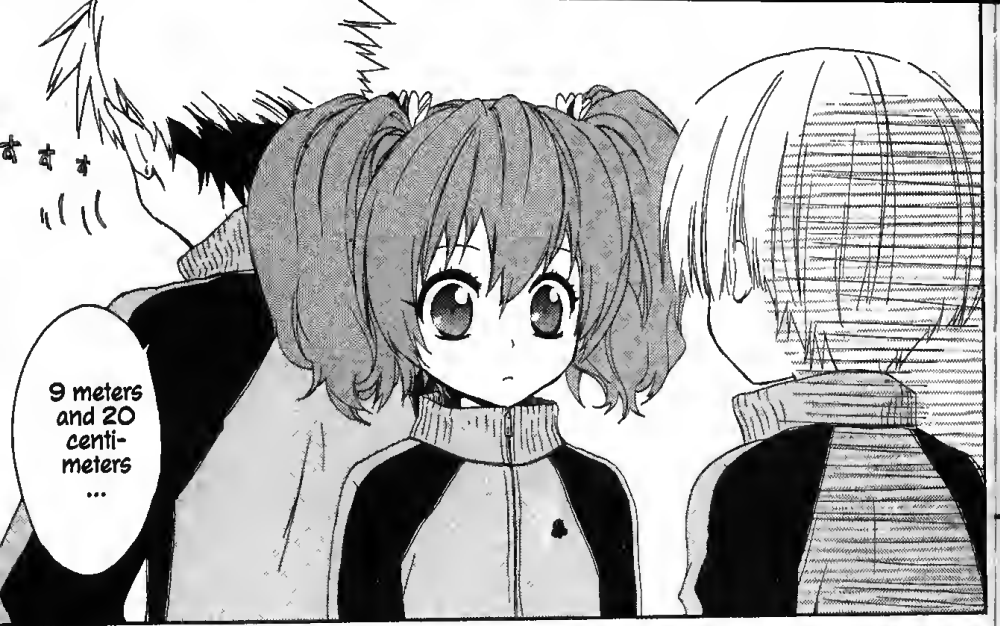

Bride...
...huh?
That'll be it for today.
So let's have fun!

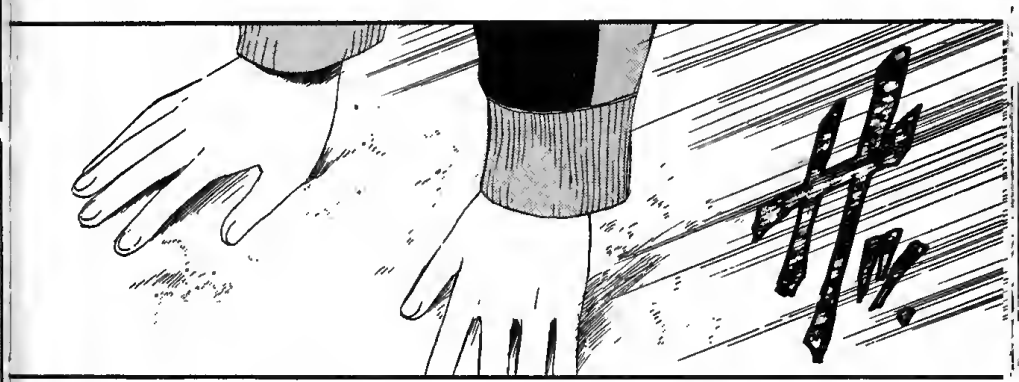


Note: The world record is approximately 8.95 meters.

Next! Miiko Suzuhara!
Oh! ♡
Have fun.
6.6 meters!
How long do we have to stand here? I'm bored.
You really don't like hanging out in groups, do you?




9 meters and 20 centi-meters ...



I'm Kotaro Araki!

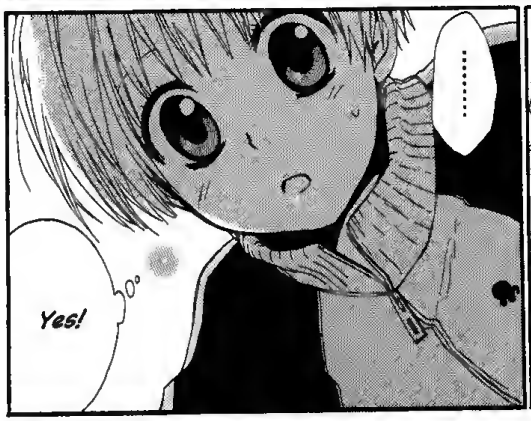
I jumped the exact same distance.
This feels kinda like fate.

What's your name?
...what the--?

What?! Let me go again!
No, from the back.
Shouldn't you measure from the front of my leg?
Next.

What-ever!
Argh!
Miiko... You did the exact same thing as that boy...

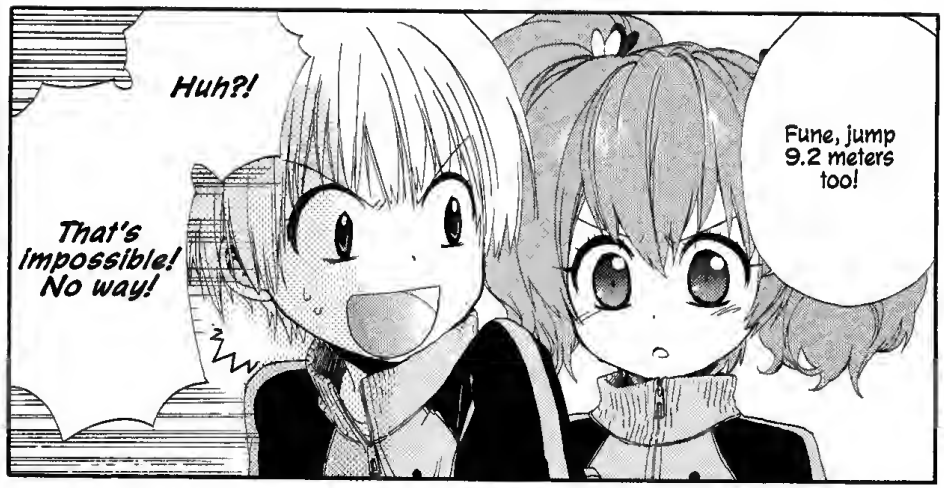
Huh?!
Suzuhara-san, 9.2 meters.


Yes!

But he said we were the same.

Like I said...
That wasn't 9.2 meters!

That's a personal record!
4.20 meters.
Next!


Huh?!
That's impossible! No way!
Fune, jump 9.2 meters too!

Coming!

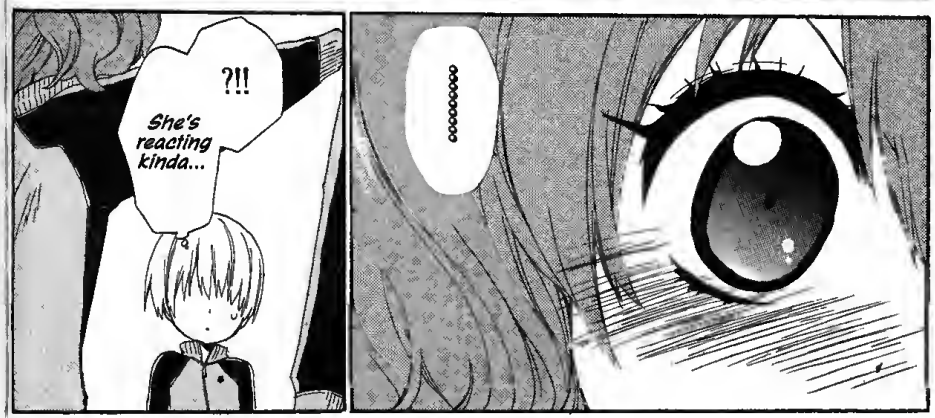
Just do it!
There's no way I can do that!
Jump it!!!
I don't like this!
Neko Fukuta.

I'm pretty athletic, but...9 meters?
Well, here goes!
.....

Eww!!!
He stinks like a fox!

Why would I want to be the same as that?!
Ah!

I'll...
I'll go get her!
Ha... Sure, bring her back.
Thanks.
1 meter!
Huuuuh?!
Yeah, I don't think a fox and cat could get along.
So he's a fox.
Umm...


?!!
She's reacting kinda...
.....

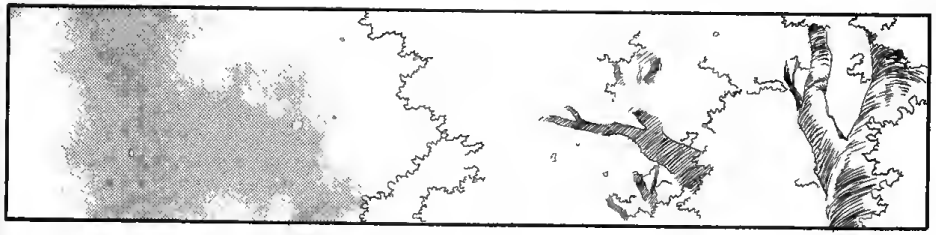
But they aren't. None of them are.

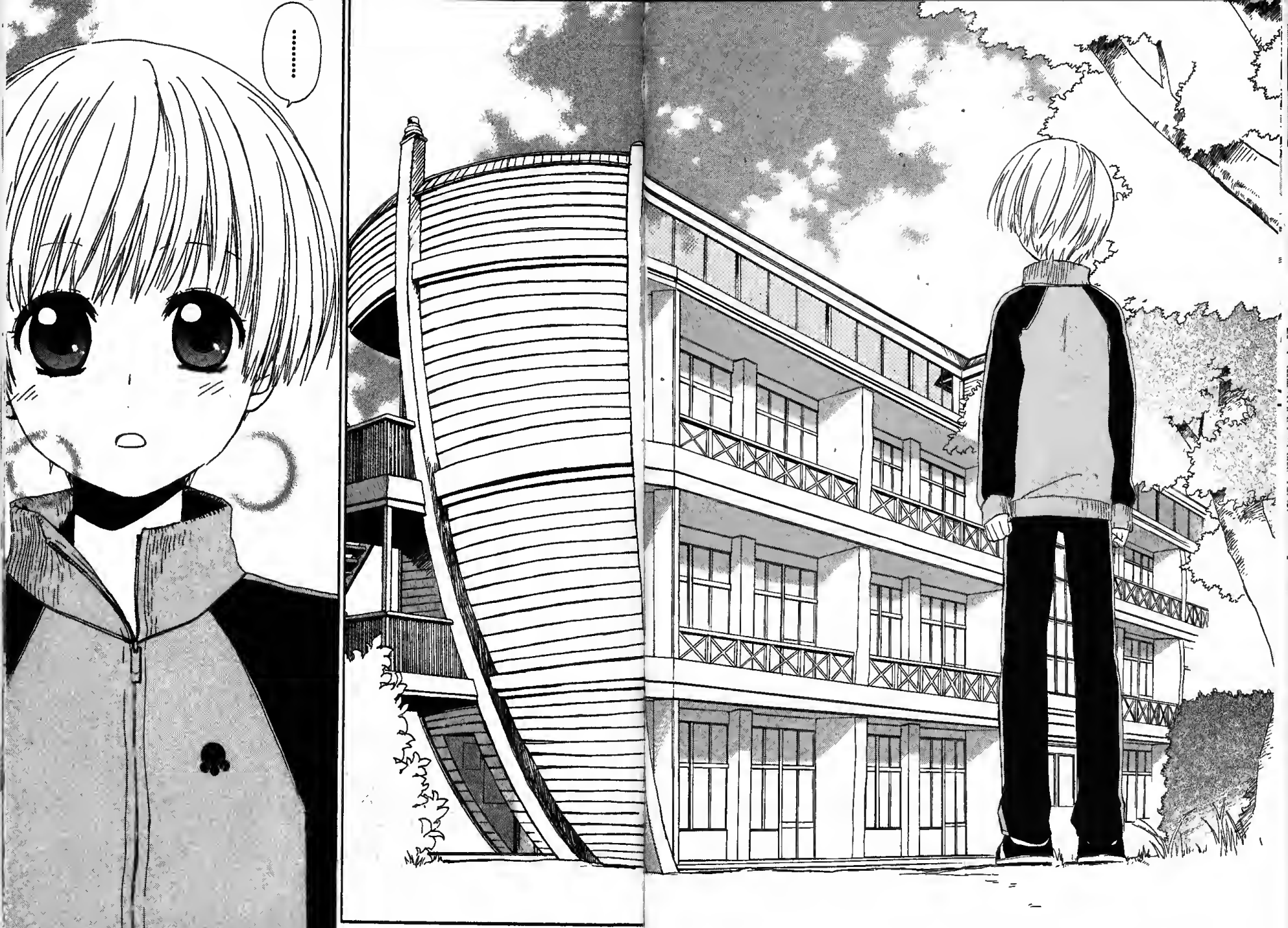
This is no place for a human.

Here, I'm not athletic, I'm not smart...

I can't fall in love...

Maybe there really aren't any other humans here.





Hate 'em!
Then why did you come to school here?
I want to speak like a human.
But you already do.
ぺろぺろ

Do other people's smells bother you that much?

Oh!
ぴかー

Umm...
……
ぺろぺろ

It really is a weird shape.
……

I see...
I just do!
That's not a reason.
Cleaning's all done!
ぴかぴか

No, I want to do it better!
I mean, I want to be like a normal human.

How come?

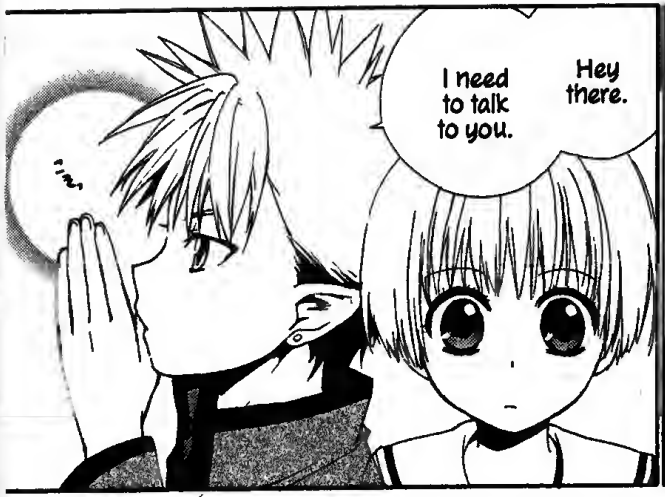
Uh... your tongue's sticking out.
You're not supposed to run off during class.
I wanted to get this smell off me.
Cleaning!

Miiko!

I'm sorry.
The truth is...
...I'm a human.
.....

.....
What about you, Fune?
Me?
.....
Well, I...
.....

Pretty cool, huh?
Right...?
I shouldn't have said that. What was I thinking?
.....
It's just a joke!
A... joke?
Yeah! of course!
Heh.
Oh, you're so weird!
Heh heh heh.
I... am?
Yup!
Heh heh!
There's no way you're not a cat, Fune!
Ha ha... ha.
Sorry about that.
I'm so sorry.
I'm lying to you, Miiko.
Oh...
This is bad.



Thank you very much, Sensei!

Um...
Ah...
Err...
Um...
Really...?
This is my roommate, Yuichi Takuma!
.....

Hold on a sec.
Come on, get up and say hi.
He was down there?
Ow...
Yup, yup.
He told me so.
Really?!
Kotaro!
This is him!
Hi!

Report.4

A Farewell in the Field?

How about we get to know each other?
Fune?
Leave them alone, Miiko-chan.
I wondered why he...
So that's it...
Of course! I'm really good at it.
By the way, did you find out by eaves-dropping?
Well, cut it out.

I've missed this so much.
I know!
Wow, this is great.
Finally, someone who understands what I'm talking about!

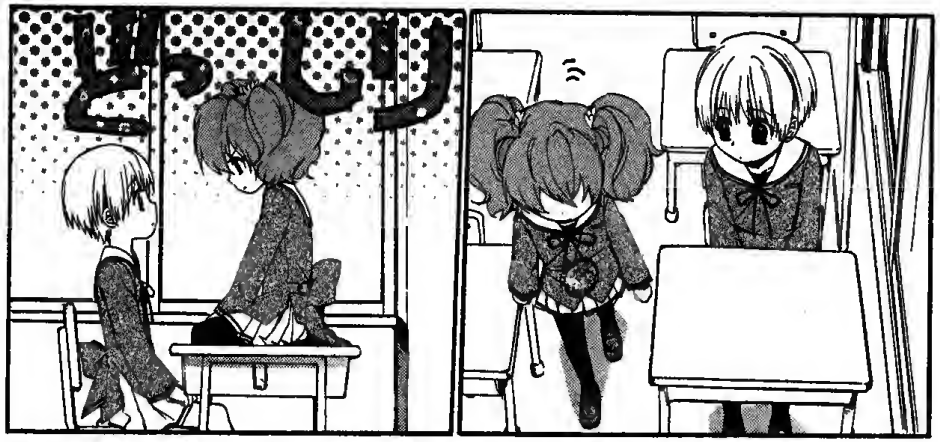
Miiko?
Oh, what about--
んば

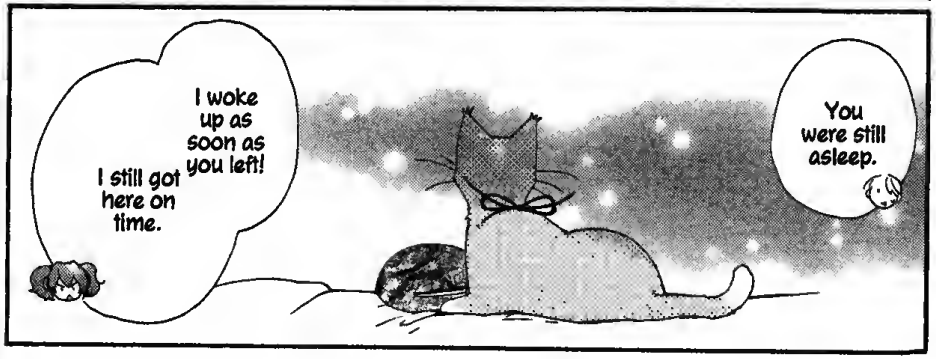
Hey, did you ever watch "The Prisoner of Fossa Magna"?

Yeah, yeah!
Did you get to the Red Arrow part?
Oh, how much of it did you watch?
I did!
I loved how nothing ever seemed to bother him.

I never got to see the final episode though.
Really? Me too.
I sure do!
Do you know VX-77?

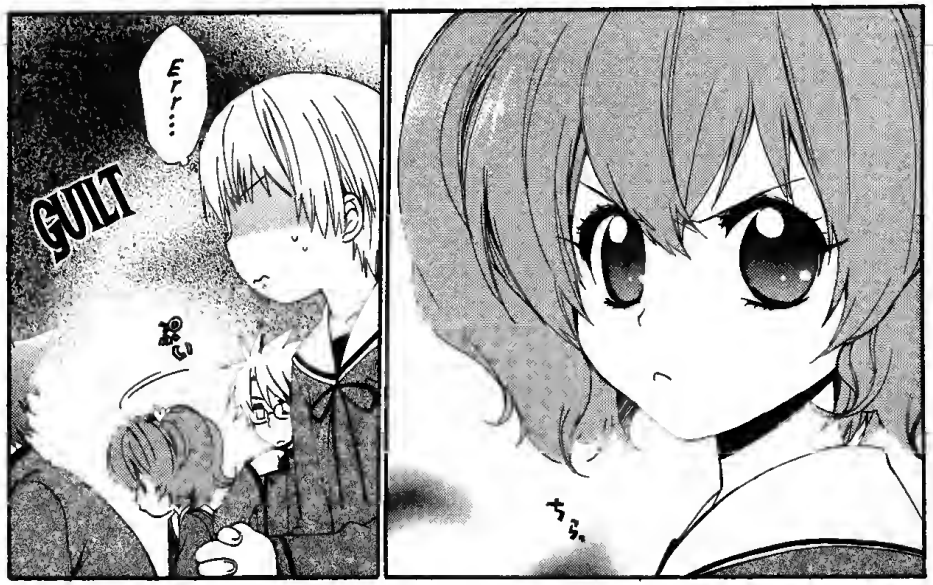
This guy's name is Yuichi Takuma.



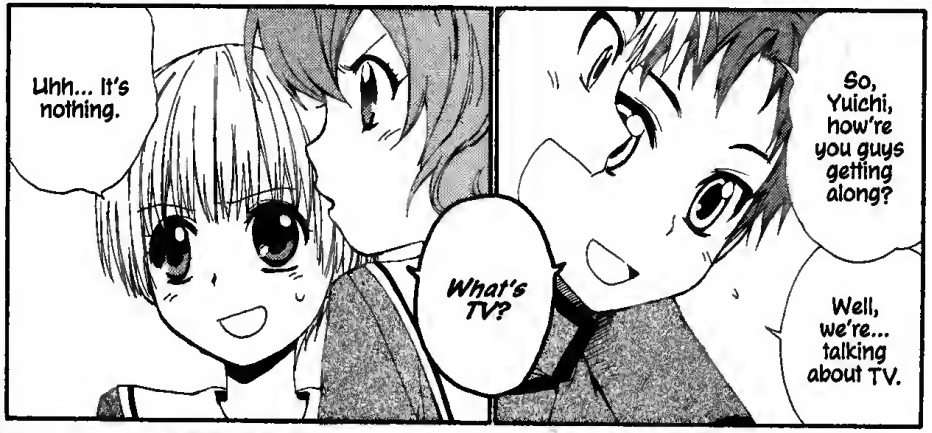


You sure don't learn, Kotaro.
ぱしんっ
SLAP

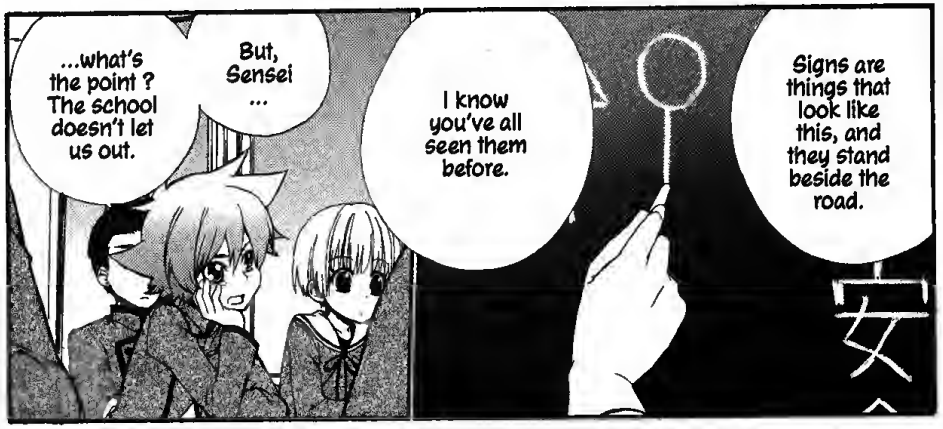
I want Miiko to be friendlier with others, but...
...I feel like I'm hurting her.

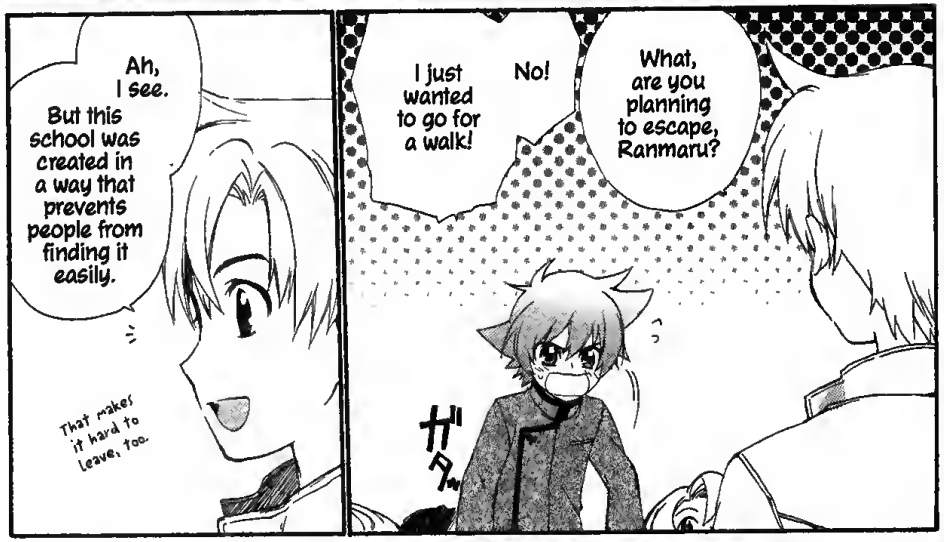

Err...
GUILT

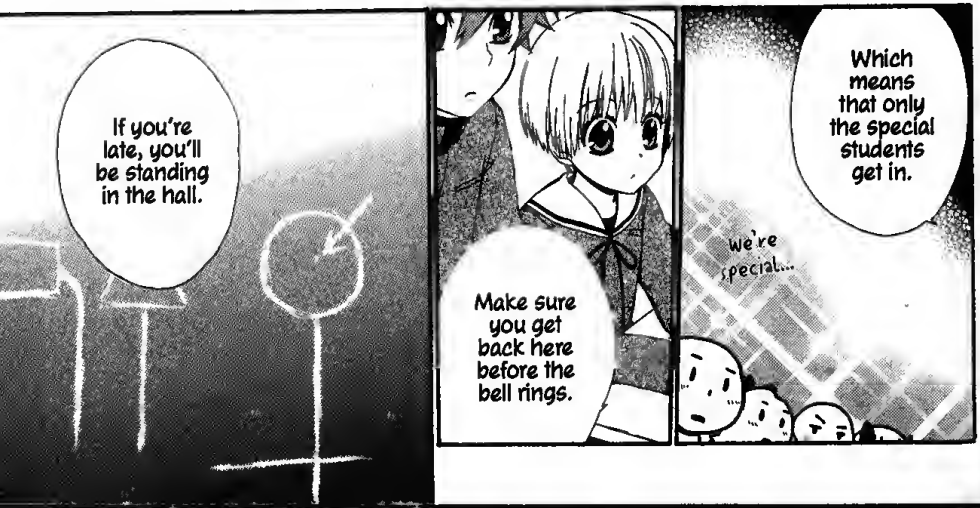
But then Kotaro, a fox, introduced me to his roommate, Takuma-kun. Apparently, Takuma-kun was looking for other humans too.
Morning!
Kotaro.
This is such a strange school that I had no idea how to go about searching for other humans.

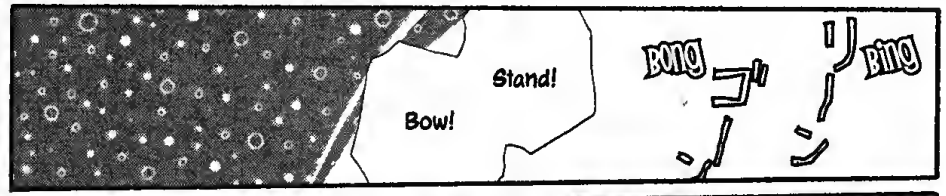

Uhh... It's nothing.
What's TV?
So, Yuichi, how're you guys getting along?
Well, we're... talking about TV.

It's so obvious what he's after...
He's not even trying to hide it...
Right, Miiko?!
Well, that's great to hear!


...what's the point ? The school doesn't let us out.
But, Sensei ...
I know you've all seen them before.
Signs are things that look like this, and they stand beside the road.


Ah, I see.
But this school was created in a way that prevents people from finding it easily.
That makes it hard to leave, too.
I just wanted to go for a walk!
No!
What, are you planning to escape, Ranmaru?
ガタッ


If you're late, you'll be standing in the hall.
Make sure you get back here before the bell rings.
Which means that only the special students get in.
We're special...


Stand!
Bow!
BONG
ゴーン
BING

Let's see now
This week... is all about learning the rules for walking safely in the street.
I know a lot of you are still struggling with reading some words, so you don't have to remember all of this right away.
Okay, guys! This is Spring Traffic Safety Week.
Spring Traffic Safety Week

Oh.
So they have to teach stuff like this...
First, we'll go over the many signs you'll come across.
Cool, huh?
...you'll soon learn that many words or symbols are derived from pictures.
We'll have grammar next period, but...

I just thought there were some signs over here.

And if you go down there...
...you'll reach the train station.

I really like learning about maps and stuff.
Yeah, basically.
You had them memorized?
And aerial photography.
You found all those already?
Not exactly.

Yay, we can make it back!
Really?

If we run right now...
...we could get away from this place.

That's the elementary school.
There's some ruins over there.
That's the big bridge.
Wow...

This place ...
...is like one big lie.
So you have things that worry you too.
I should've known better.
What about you?
It's all fake.
The ground feels so soft and ...fluffy.
I thought it was just me!
So you want to leave...?
Oh well! I'm sure they're recording my favorite shows for me!
Kind of.
I don't even know why I'm here.

Cat...
Hisssss!!!
Help! He won't give up!
M-i-k-o?
!!
Oops, wrong girl!
By the way, could someone pry him off?
Aaah!
Ah!
Why are you with this... thing, anyway?!
Help me, Fune!
Rude as always.
No progress.

Well, I don't think anyone at my house is recording my shows for me...
So...
...do you...
...want to go home too?
Yeah.
.....
No?
No. I should've asked.
Oops.
!!!
WHAM
Fuuuuneeee!!!

Get your hands off of me!!!
In fact, I'll never let her go!
...I'll never make that mistake again!
Hiss!!!
.....
All right, Yuichi!
From now on...

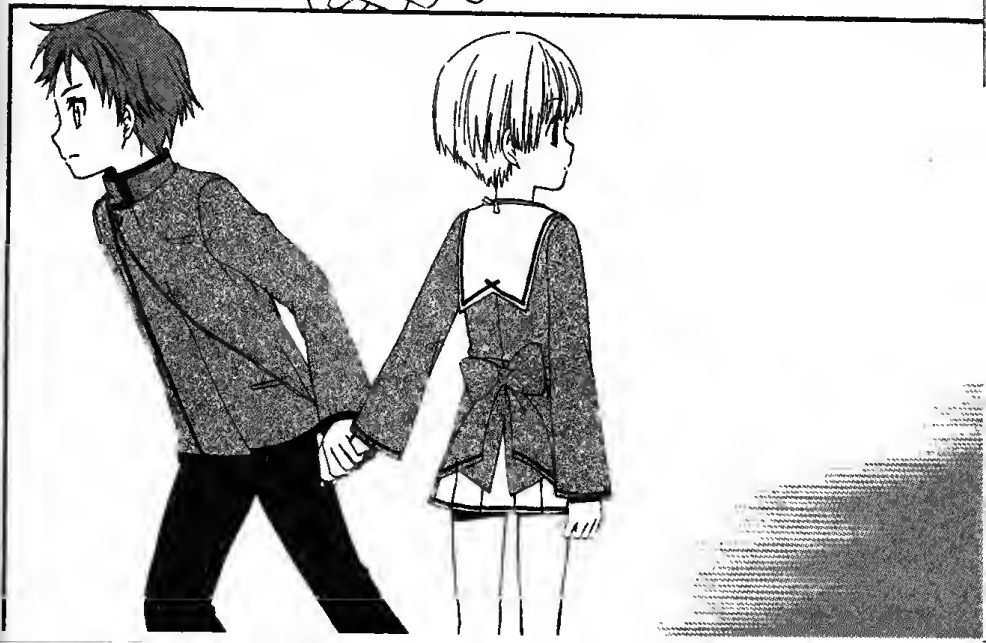
SLAP
Don't confuse the person you like with someone else!
Th--
That's not the point!
Owww! What the heck?! I just hugged the wrong person! It was an honest mistake!
Dops.

Let's go down the hill.
...huh?
This is it.
Now's our chance.
Let's go down there and catch the train home.

So cute! So cute!
.....

You got it!
Let go! This sucks!

Don't let go, Kotaro!



Bye, guys.
Have fun!

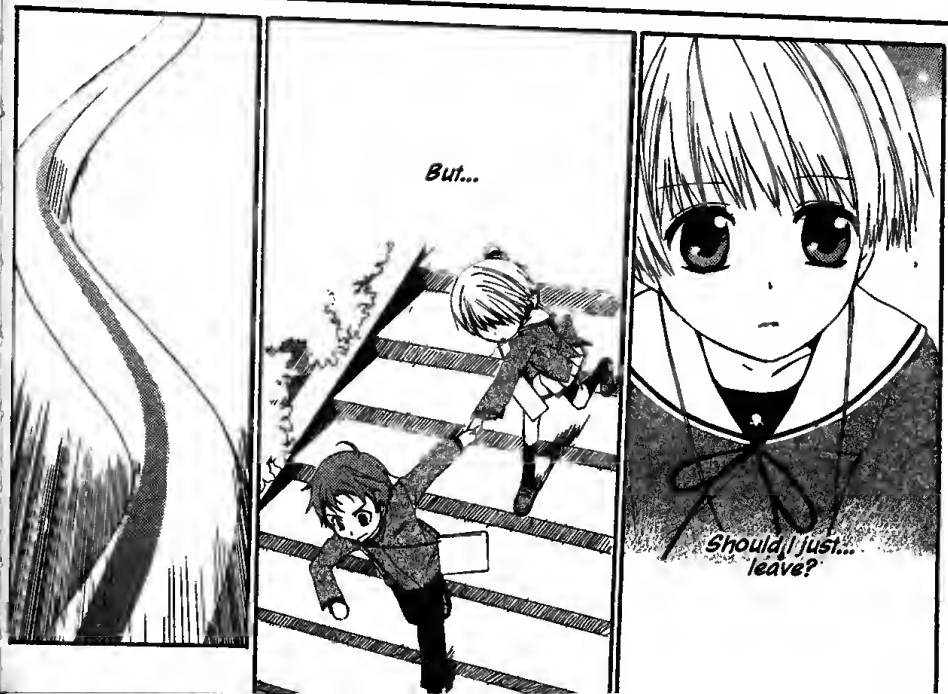
"There's no way you're not a cat, Fune!"

Hey!
Yuichi?
Fune!

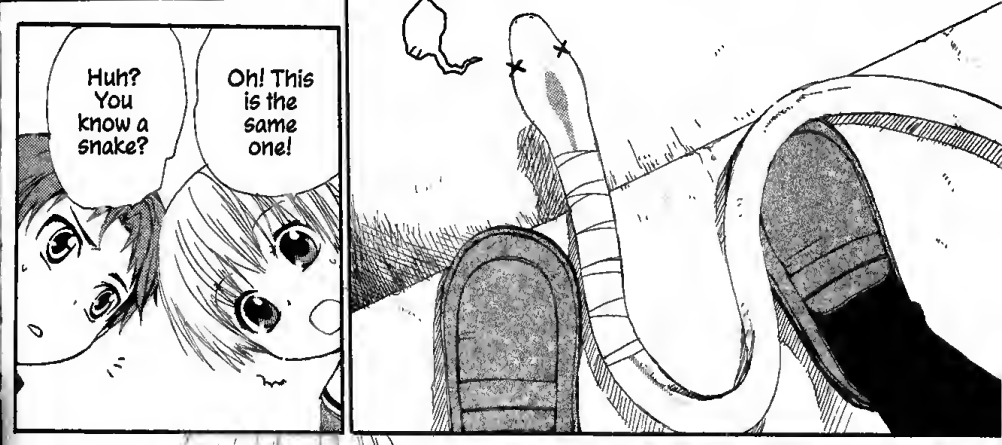
Are you okay?!
I think so...
Ack!!!
びたん。

What should I do?
Why am I running?
I'm lying to Milko.
Because running will get me home.
Is that why?
Home?
What should I do?
Should I...

I tripped over something.
No, it wasn't that.
Sorry for dragging you.
Tripping like a little kid...


But...
Should I just... leave?

.....
Fukuta...
...san.
The train station's right down there.


Huh? You know a snake?
Oh! This is the same one!

But, see this?
I put this bandage on him!

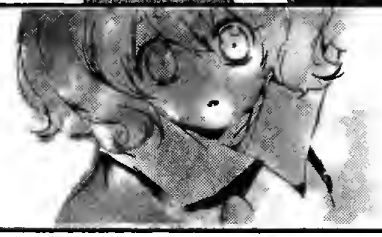
I...don't know.
Is it a student?
Well, I don't know its name or anything...

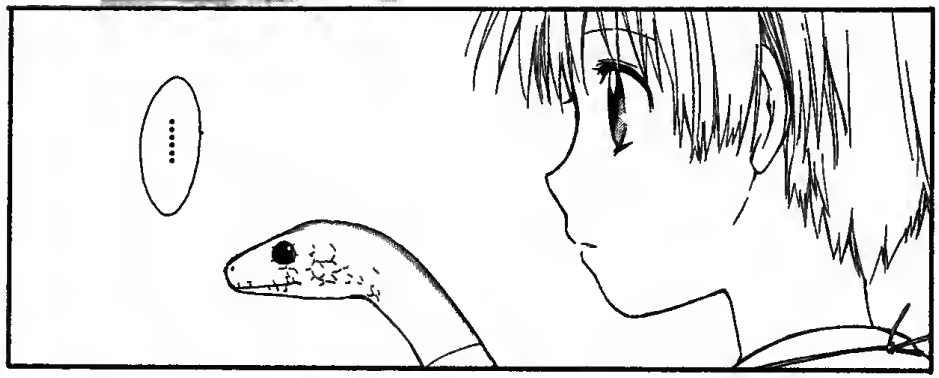
Are you looking back at the school?

What?
?

What are you guys doing out here?
Oh!
Um...

.....
Fukuta-san?




.....

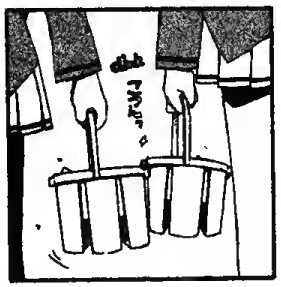
?
キョろ
キョろ
Up here.
Above you!

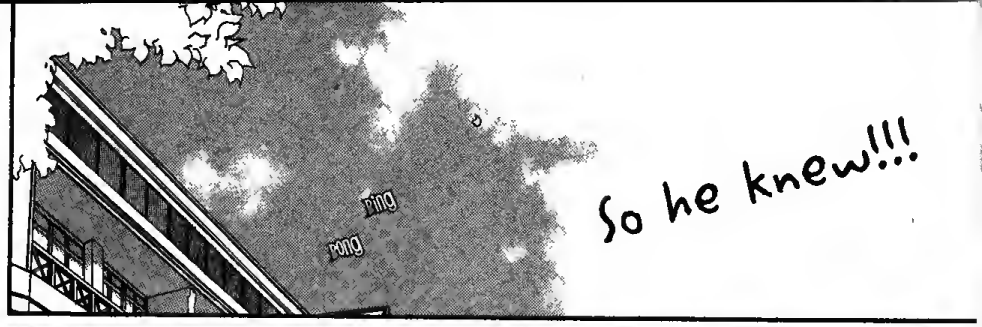
Hey there.

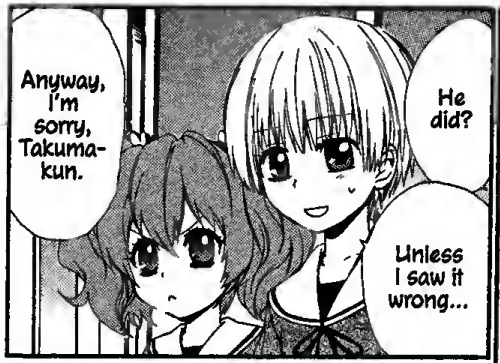
It's half past, by the way.
Thanks!
All right.
.....
Here! You can have our signs.
It's the homework!
You'll just be waiting around at the platform if you go down there now.
Whisper
That means the train just left the station.

Looking for signs, of course.
What are you doing?
Use my first name. It's Sasuke.
You're in our class! Sagami, right?
S-same as you! So... you find any signs around here?
Ah, okay.
Huh?
And you guys are up to... what, exactly?
Urk!
I'd appreciate it if you didn't tell anyone you saw us here... Sasuke.
Um... Sasuke... kun.
It's just Sasuke.
Okay, then.
Where'd the snake go?

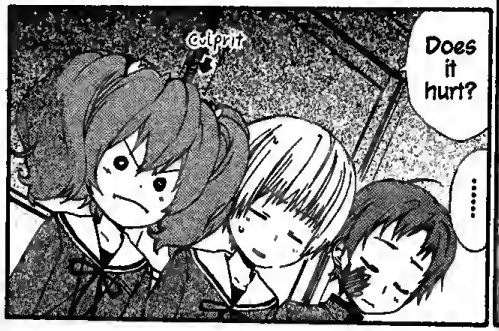
Stupid...
Stupid Fune!!!




Ring
Ring
So he knew!!!

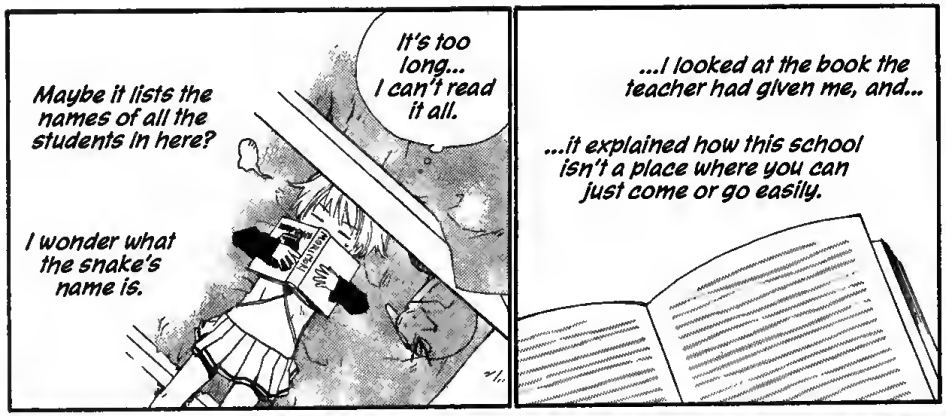

Anyway, I'm sorry, Takuma-kun.
He did?
Unless I saw it wrong...

But he bowed when he walked past us.
If he knew, why'd he ask what we were doing?!
What's with that guy?!
.....


Culprit
Does it hurt?
.....

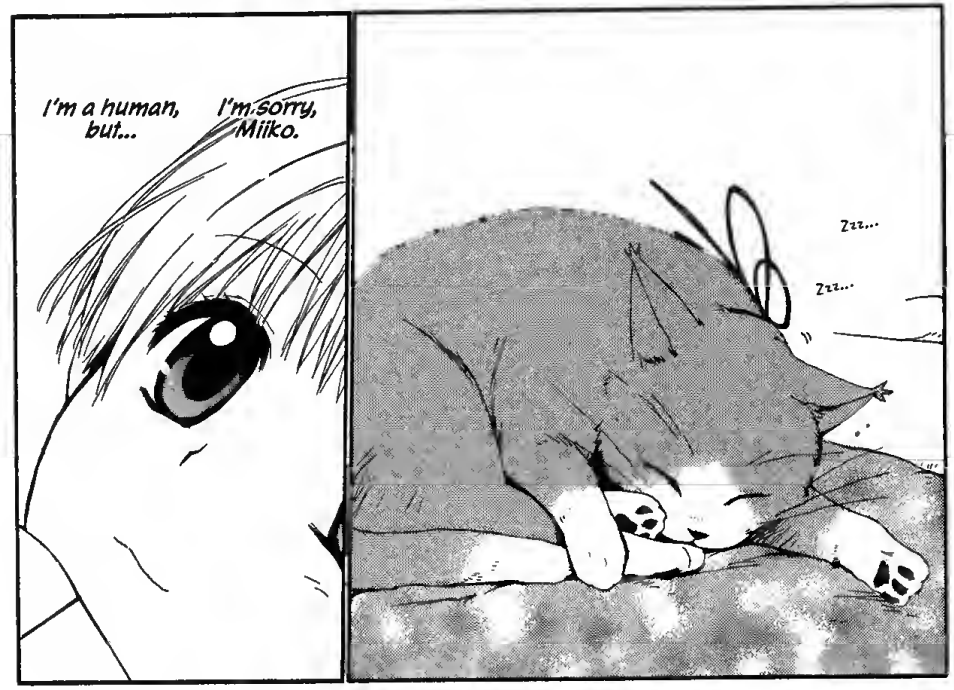
It's okay.
Thank you.

No, it's my fault you got in trouble.
Sorry.


Maybe it lists the names of all the students in here?
It's too long... I can't read it all.
I wonder what the snake's name is.

...I looked at the book the teacher had given me, and...
...it explained how this school isn't a place where you can just come or go easily.

I'll ask the next time I see it.


I'm a human, but...
I'm sorry, Miiko.
Zzz...
Zzz...

Promise?
.....
Don't ever go off like that.

Afterward...
Uh-huh.
.....

Animal Academy 1/END

Postscript 1

Miiko Suzuhara

I have a very similar rude cat at home.

I'm sure cat-lovers will like her, but non-cat-lovers will probably be like, "I don't give a darn about you!"

So cute!

Hiss!

Hiss!

Yap

If gets mad if you even look at it

A non-cat-lover

My friend told me to model her after my cat, so that's what I did.

Neko Fukuta

At first she was a ruder 15-year-old. But if she was rude and got bad grades, well...what would be her good point?

Her personality changed every time I wrote a new draft of chapter one.

No sexiness or fashion sense.

Now she's more of a stupid-but-energetic girl. Hopefully that's more positive.

I designed a bunch of different hairstyles for my editor to choose from. And here you see the strong (?) main character!

Thank you so much for picking up volume 1 of this school story...or is it an animal story?

Yay! Volume 1!

Hello! This is Moyamu Fujino!

Oh!

It's 2006 already! I hope I can manage to draw a ton of material this year!

They always have the same conversation...

Already?

R-really?

Yup.

I'll let you in on a little secret: the window of time between the serialization starting and this book being released was so swift that I don't even remember it.

Loft Bed

Animals can't help but be cute!

But you know what?

These are cute too!

Oh, cute!

What am I doing?

Sorry...

Cats

Foxes

I hope this section doesn't wind up being just me talking about cats...

My hamster's doing well too.

I hope to see you in the next volume.

I'm still working to get better, but I'm putting a lot of love into this work!

mew!

munch

Moyamu Fujino

An extra bonus feature!

It's a behind-the-scenes look...

If this book is coming out in spring, that's perfect.

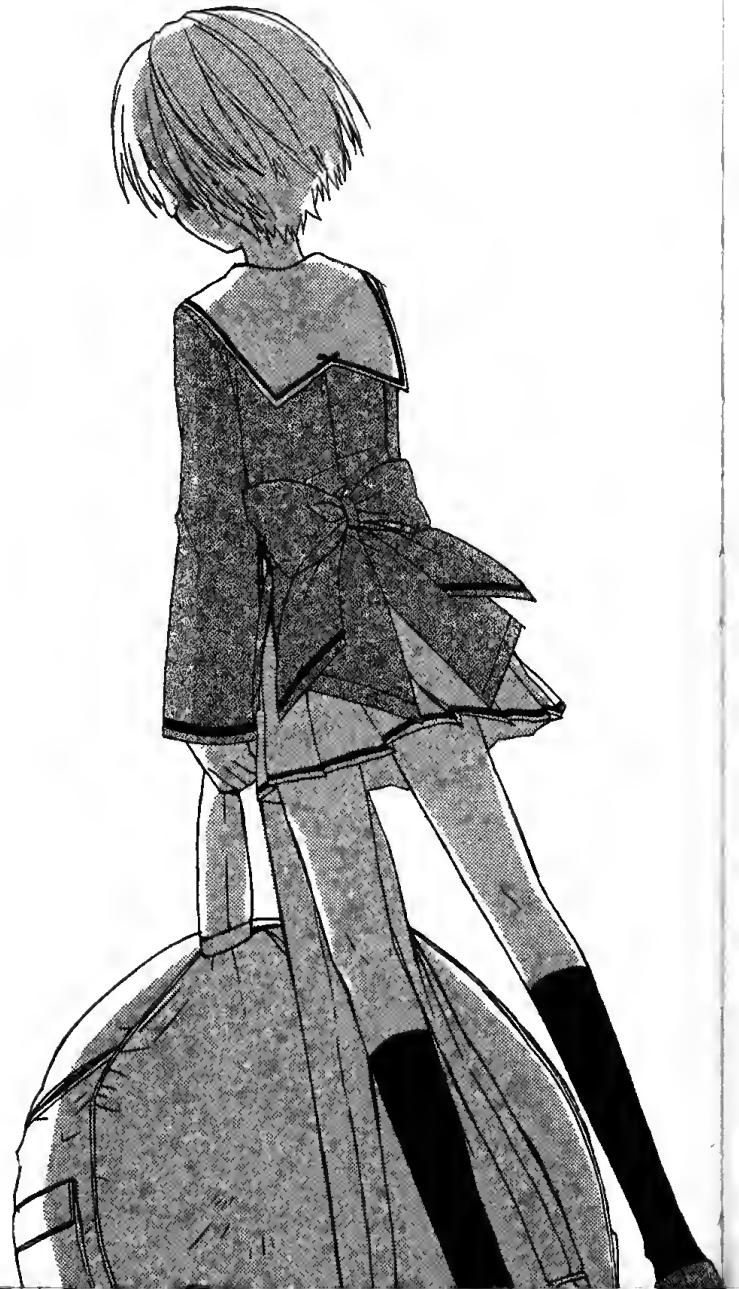
That's when the Japanese school year starts.

Oh, a cat.

The people who helped me on volume 1:

- D. Miwa
- K. Miwa
- M. Yu-ki
- My Editor
- My roommates

Thank you so much!



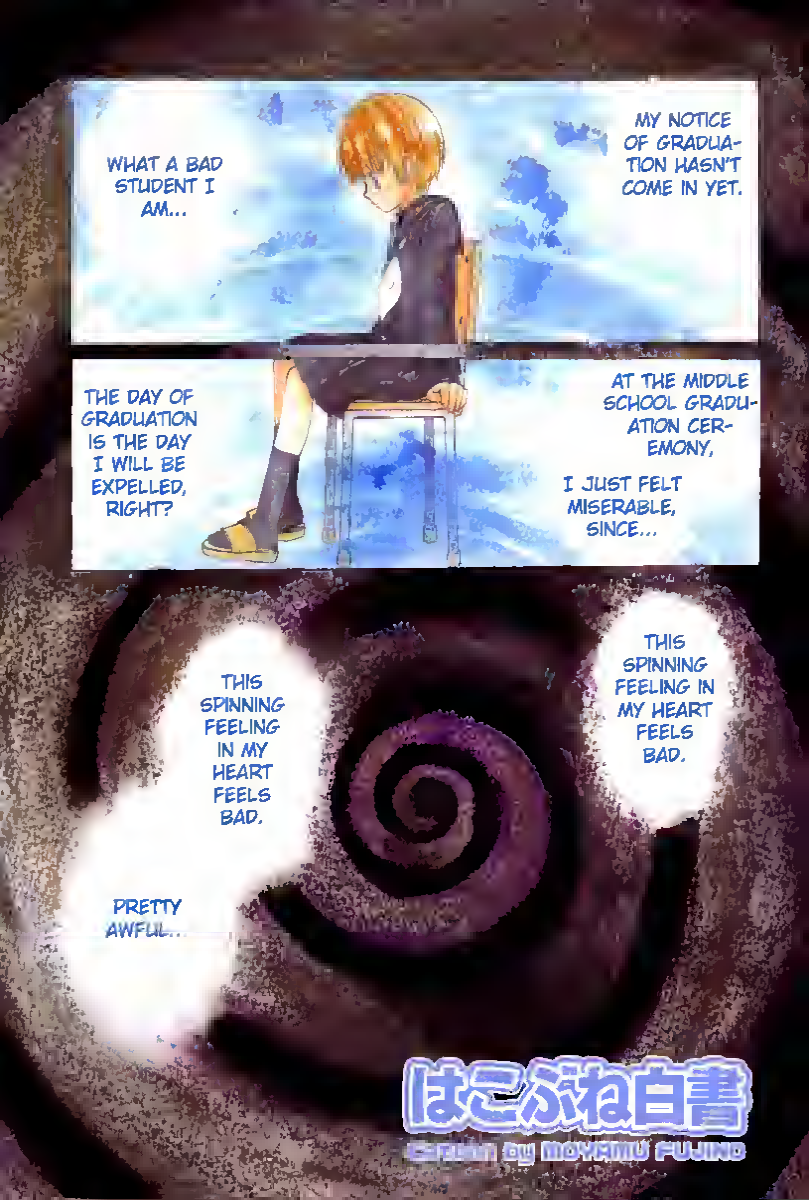
In the next volume of...

Animal ACADEMY

はこぶね白書 HAKOBUNE HAKUSHO

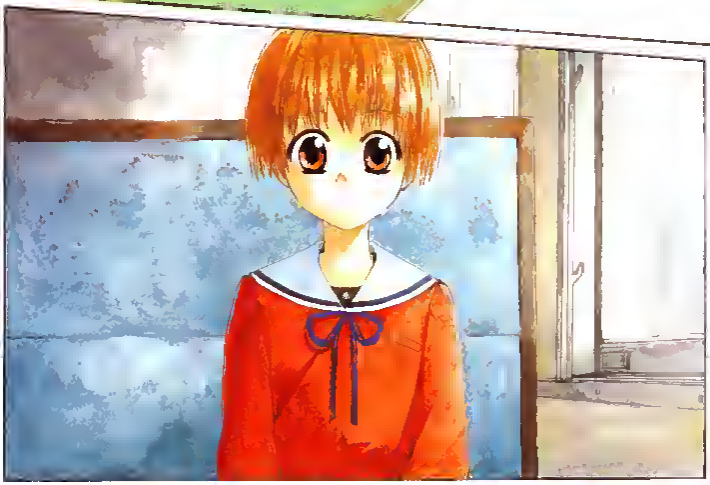
The fun never stops at Morimori High School! Fune and her friends are settling in to their classes and dorm life, but there are plenty of surprises in store as Fune learns more about the strange school rules, as well as some of its more mysterious students. And when it comes time to pick extra-curriculars? What will Fune do?!

Wilson Wilson
&
Kick The Kitty


WHAT A BAD STUDENT I AM...
MY NOTICE OF GRADUATION HASN'T COME IN YET.
THE DAY OF GRADUATION IS THE DAY I WILL BE EXPELLED, RIGHT?
AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY,
I JUST FELT MISERABLE, SINCE...
THIS SPINNING FEELING IN MY HEART FEELS BAD.
THIS SPINNING FEELING IN MY HEART FEELS BAD.
PRETTY AWFUL...
はこぶね白書
Drawn by MOYAMU FUJINO

ブレイド秋の大新連載攻勢!!
はこぶね白書
HAKOBUNE HAKUSHO
Report.1 入学!
新連載
64P
ブレイドコミックス「賢者の長き不在」全8巻、発売中。
Catoon by MOYAMU FUJINO
藤野もやむ

AH...



◀35Pへ急げ!!!!!

はこぶね白書
[1]

HAKOBUNE HAKUSHO

はこぶね白書

[1]

Cartoon by

MOYAMU FUJINO

藤野もやむ

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